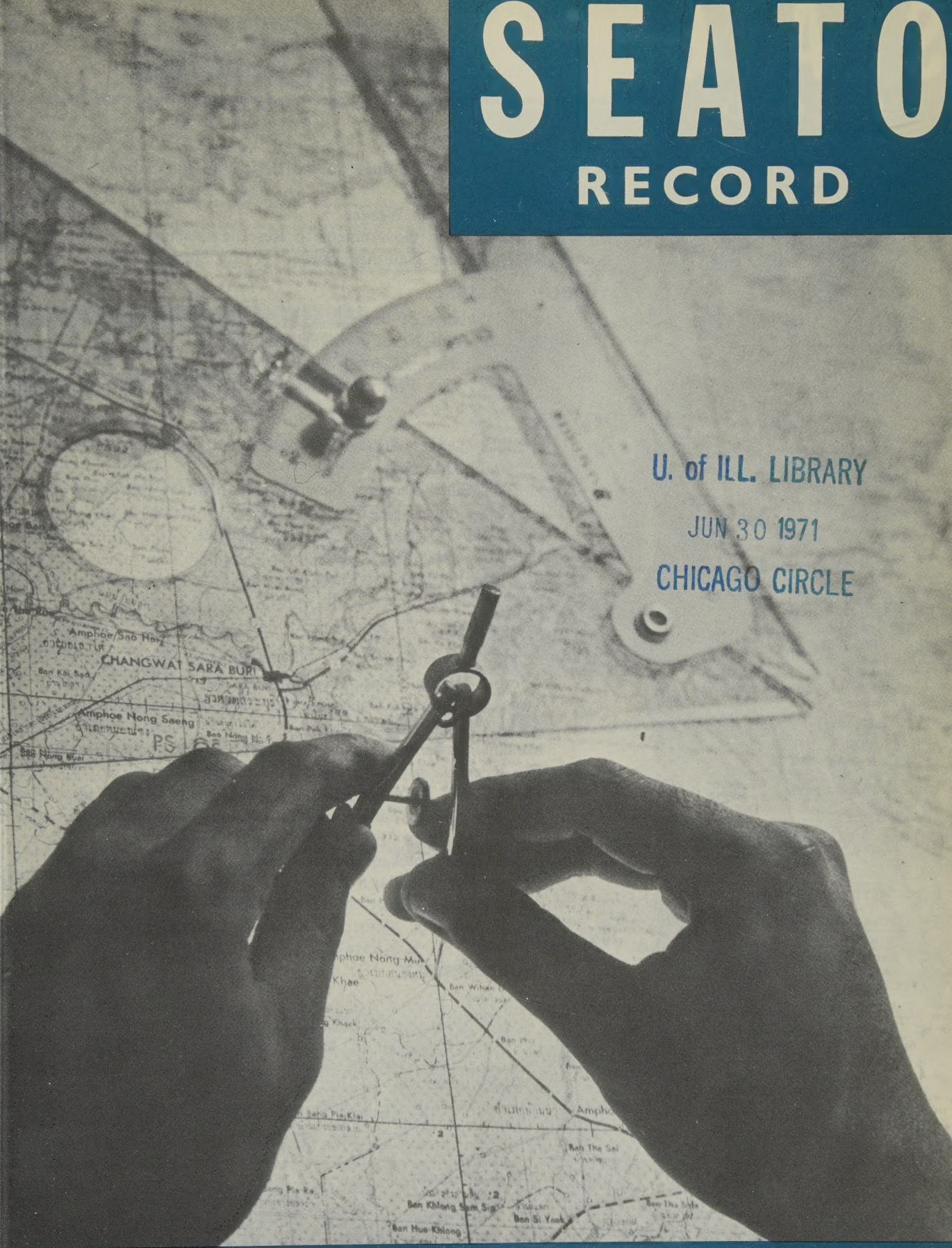
SEATO RECORD



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- ASIA'S BALANCE OF POWER
- DILEMMA OF SHIFTING CULTIVATION
- SEATO HELPS RESETTLE EVACUEES

SEATO RECORD

SEATO RECORD features significant events in South-East Asia, as well as activities of the Organization and its member nations. It reports statements which reflect attitudes or policies related to SEATO's role as a defensive organization.

SEATO PROJECTS:

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT

●

SEATO REGIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE

●

SEATO VEHICLE REBUILD WORKSHOP

●

SEATO SKILLED LABOUR PROJECTS:

Thailand — initiated by SEATO

Military Technical Training School, Bangkok.
Teacher Development Centre, Bangkok.
Vocational Training Centres located in 19 provincial cities.

Pakistan —

SEATO Technical Training Centre, Dacca.
SEATO Technical Training Centre, Karachi.

Philippines —

SEATO Vocational Training Centre, Marikina.

●

SEATO MEDICAL PROJECTS:

Thailand —

SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Bangkok.
SEATO Clinical Research Centre, Bangkok.

Pakistan —

Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca.

●

SEATO CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Under-Graduate Scholarships, Post Graduate Scholarships, Fellowships, Professorships.

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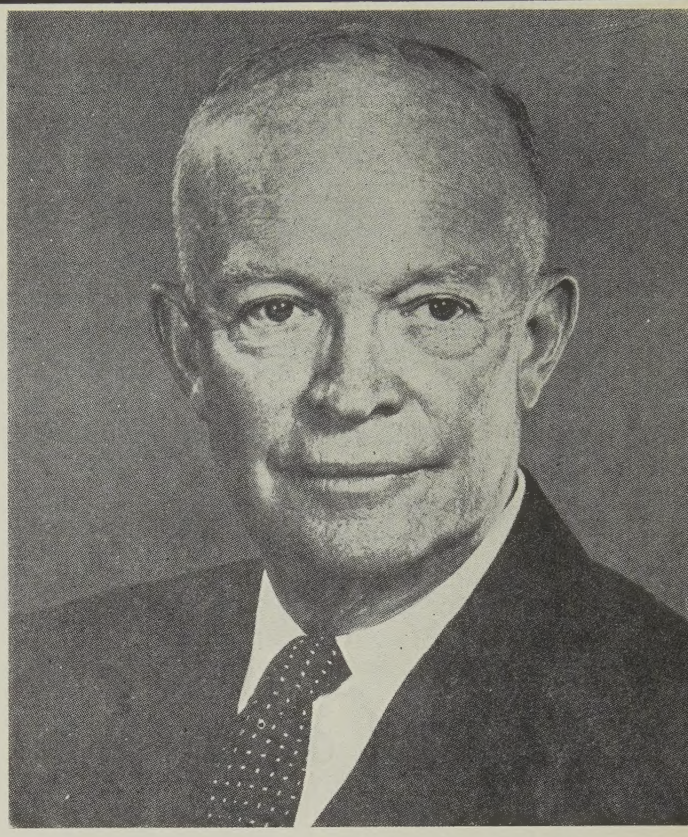
COVER PICTURE:

Cartography — or the art and science of map-making — constitutes an important part of SEATO's Military Planning Office which works in close co-operation with the Royal Thai Survey Department. Recently, a group of SEATO officers visited the Department to see some of the latest techniques used in map and chart production. While there, our cameraman snapped this 'silhouette' of a cartographer measuring off distances and bearings from a newly-printed map.

"SEATO Record" is published six times a year. Inquiries from officia private organizations, educational institutions, libraries etc., are welcomed should be addressed to the Public Information Office, SEATO Headqua P.O. Box 517, Bangkok, Thailand.

EISENHOWER



WHEN-General Dwight Eisenhower died last month at the age of 78, after a long illness, Americans d the world at large, lost a man who earned the pect and admiration of all.

From humble origins, he became the 34th Presi- t of the United States, and along the way gained ernational acclaim as Commander-in-Chief of Allied rces in Europe in World War II, as Chief of Staff the U.S. Army after the war, as President of Co- nbia University, and as Supreme Commander of ied Forces during the early years of the North antic Treaty Organization.

. . . a soldier to the last who put service before self

His first taste of itary life came at the of 21 when after fail- to qualify for the U.S. Naval Academy because of an age limitation, he was epted by the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1911. He duated four years later in the top third of his class.

Lieutenant Eisenhower married Mamie Geneva Doud, daughter of a Colorado sinessman, in Denver on July 1, 1916.

Twenty-five years of moderate success in the Army followed Mr. Eisenhower's duation from West Point, but he was virtually unknown outside the military vice. As the United States braced for World War II, however, he rose to the nk of General.

General Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe, is pictured here in England in 1944 giving a final talk to a group of paratroopers about to board their planes for the first assault on the continent of Europe on D-Day.

He was appointed Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces in North Africa on November 8, 1942. Later, when the massive buildup for the allied thrust into Normandy got under way, General Eisenhower was named commander of the operation, being elevated in December, 1944, to the five-star rank of General of the Army.

Retiring from active service in 1948—after 37 years—Mr. Eisenhower accepted the Presidency of Columbia University in New York City. He resigned in December, 1950, however, when President Truman appointed him Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe. There he had the delicate assignment of getting the North Atlantic (NATO) defense forces functioning effectively.

In 1952, he came home from Europe, promising to accept the Republican nomination for President. Mr. Eisenhower was rated one of the most popular presidential candidates in U.S. history, twice achieving the office by two of the biggest voting margins ever recorded. In fact, he proved to be more popular than his party, which was able to control Congress for only two of the eight years he was in the White House.

Describing the aim of his Presidential Administration as a "just and lasting peace," he saw an end negotiated in 1953 to the United Nations police action in Korea.

It was during the Eisenhower Administration, that SEATO was created in September, 1954. Four years later the United States became an associate member of the Baghdad Pact, later to be known as the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO).

The Space Age became a fact of international relations and of global competition during the Eisenhower Administration.

At home one of the most crucial and dramatic events of the Eisenhower years was the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that racial segregation in public schools was unconstitutional.

During the first four years of his retirement he devoted much time to writing his White House memoirs. He had written "Crusade in Europe" after World War II. "Mandate for Change" was his first book on his White House days. In 1965 another book, "Waging Peace," told the story of his second term. Mr. Eisenhower's last book, "At Ease," was published in 1967.

He still kept up his interest in domestic and international affairs. President Johnson often consulted him, and former Vice-President Richard Nixon reported to him periodically on matters relating to the Republican Party.

A ROYAL OCCASION...

Their Majesties the King and Queen of Thailand with President and Mrs. Eisenhower on the occasion of the State Dinner given at the White House on the evening of the Royal Couple's arrival in Washington, D.C. in 1960.

●

...A SPECIAL TRIBUTE

SEATO flags flew at half-mast in homage to the memory of former President Eisenhower. In a special tribute, General Vargas, Secretary-General of SEATO, said: "It is with deep regret that I learn of the passing of a great soldier, a beloved leader o the American people and one of the world's most respected and revered men, former President Eisenhower. I wish particularly to pay tribute to him as a friend of Asians. It was under his presidency that the South-East Asia Treaty Organization was founded. He responded to the call of Asians by offering the assistance and protection of his great nation so that the peoples of South-East Asia might pursue their national destinies in peace and order, free from outside menace.

"I am proud today to be the Secretary-General of that Organization and to share with this great man the aims and ideals that brought SEATO into being, aims and ideals that SEATO still pursues.

"It was my privelege to know General Eisenhower personlly, both as a soldier and as President of the United States. As an Asian and as Secretary-General of SEATO, I offer my profound respects and sympathy to his family and to the people of the United States."

THE ART OF THE WEAVER

typical East Pakistani village has its own families of carpenters, weavers, milkmen, fishermen, iron ngers and hair-cutters. Like the Hindu castes, these nilies closely guard their family traditions and nsider it a breach of their privilege and pledge to close their technique to outsiders.

Almost each village or a group of villages has weaving family. As each family expands more and re groups of weavers are 'born'. A weaver is thus th born and made. From childhood he watches at his father does. Weaving comes almost instinc-ly to him. As he grows up he learns the technique imately and although generally a traditionalist he s no objection to the introduction of new patterns.

There are two types of weavers. One type is nerally known as "Jolas". They make coarse, rough-d-ready and very well-knit hard-wearing utility dress village men and women: *Lungi* for men and *rees* for women. Generally they are of primary colours, mostly blue and en.

The other type of weaver is the "Tanti", the weaver who makes fine dress terial, and sarees of rare quality. He is a handloom weaver and is helped by Small Industries Department of the Government. It supplies him with varieties cotton thread and material to prepare dyes.

East Pakistan Small Industries Corporation supplies the weaver with various igns some of which are variations of traditional designs. The traditional Jamdani ee of Dacca has established itself as the most dignified variety of sarees. The aver is in touch with the best shops of Dacca. The weavers of fine Dacca slin have forgotten the old trick which once helped them to produce the thinnest ssible cotton cloth of the world. But since independence Dacca weavers are ing their best to regain this art.

Since 1947 weavers of some districts have evolved quite distinctive patterns d qualities of sarees. The Pabna and the Jessore weavers have invented unique alities and designs for their respective sarees. Some handloom weavers are experts using the silk thread. The silk industry has grown in Rajshahi only since 1947 ere weavers working in the factory there earn a good living.

Silk is also imported from Japan and bought by Benares Silk industries ich are now producing expensive sarees embroidered in golden and silver threads d used in marriage ceremonies.

A skill that lives on among the rural people of East Pakistan

SEATO HELPS GOVT. TO RESETTLE EVACUEES

Resettled Meo tribesmen at Lomsak in Petchaboon Province are pictured here tilling a new plot of land planted with vegetables.

THE Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieut. General Jesus Vargas recently presented a SEATO cheque for U.S.$ 9,550 to the Thai Government's SEATO Council Representative, M.C. Jotisi Devakul, to be used for assisting the resettlement of hill tribe evacuees in the Muang District of Nan Province, Thailand.

General Vargas said that this was a further move by SEATO in fulfilling one of its vital functions: that of assisting member nations in countering Communist subversion.

He recalled that last year SEATO had given U.S.$ 9,100 for a similar purpose. The Secretary-General said that SEATO was fulfilling the mission for which it was created:—

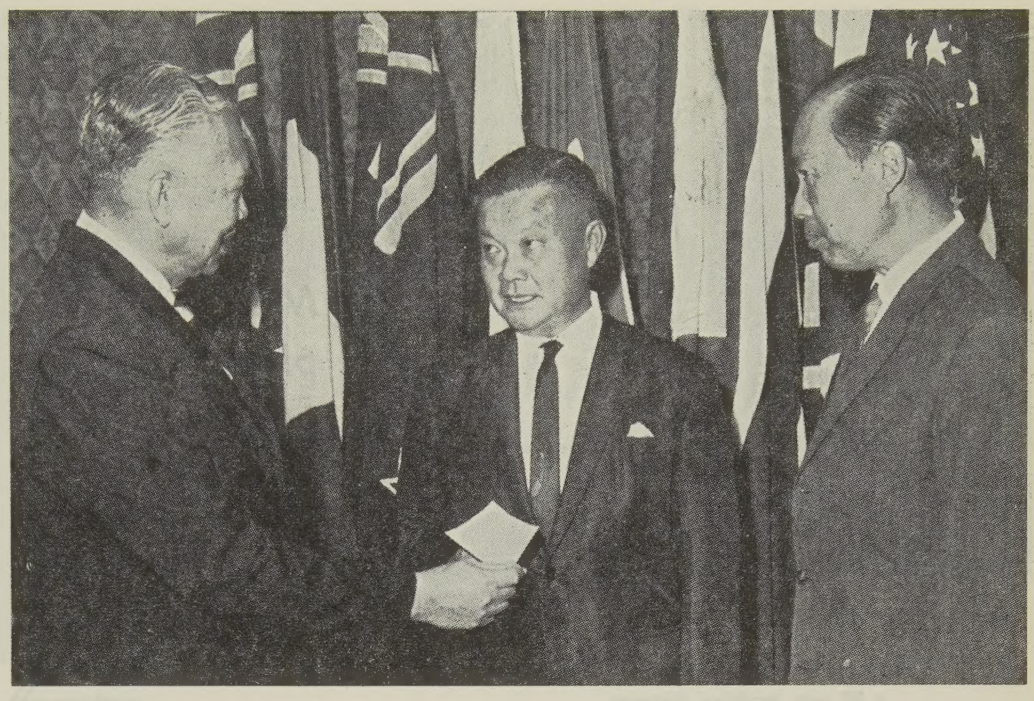
1. To provide a defence shield against Communist aggression in the Asian and Pacific member nations;

2. To assist member nations in countering Communist subversion as it is doing in Thailand and the Philippines; and

3. To strengthen the political, economic and social stability of its Asian members through its civil programmes.

In addition, the Secretary-General pointed out that five members are giving military support to South Vietnam under their SEATO commitments.

Meanwhile, General Vargas was most impressed with the progress being made by the Royal Thai Government in the resettlement of Hill Tribes as part of the anti-Communist insurgency campaign when he recently accompanied General Saiyud of CSOC to the Lom Sak area of Phetchabun province to visit a new resettlement project.



Gen. Vargas, the retary-General of ATO, is pictured here senting the cheque for $9,550 to Mr. Jotisi vakul the SEATO ncil Representative Thailand, at a special emony at SEATO adquarters.

On the right is t. Gen. Saiyud Kerd- l, Director of Opera- s and Co-ordination tre, of the Communist pression Operations mmand, Thailand.

This new resettlement village near Lom Kao begun in January this year. Already 36 White Black Meo families, totalling 223 individuals, are ng there. It is planned eventually to resettle 100 ilies in this particular site.

The resettlement effort is headed by the Commu- Suppression Operations Command but represents co-ordinated help of many government agencies.

For example, the ARD helped clear the land the resettlement site and for farming. The Ministry Public Works is drilling an artesian well. Mean- e, the Department of Health already has helped several shallow wells for hand pumps. The De- tment of Health also sends a mobile health unit to resettlement village every week.

Free food is distributed to each family daily will continue to be until the families are able to vide for themselves.

Each family has been assigned an area for vege- le gardening. The objective is to make them self-sufficient in vegetables, and hopefully to have a surplus for sale. It is also planned to allocate 8 rais of land to each family for rice farming. The first seeds will be planted during the coming rice-growing season. A school and a health centre are also planned.

The resettlement is on public lands made available by the provincial governor for that purpose. The resettlement at Lom Kao is one of several hill tribe resettlement projects under way in northern Thailand.

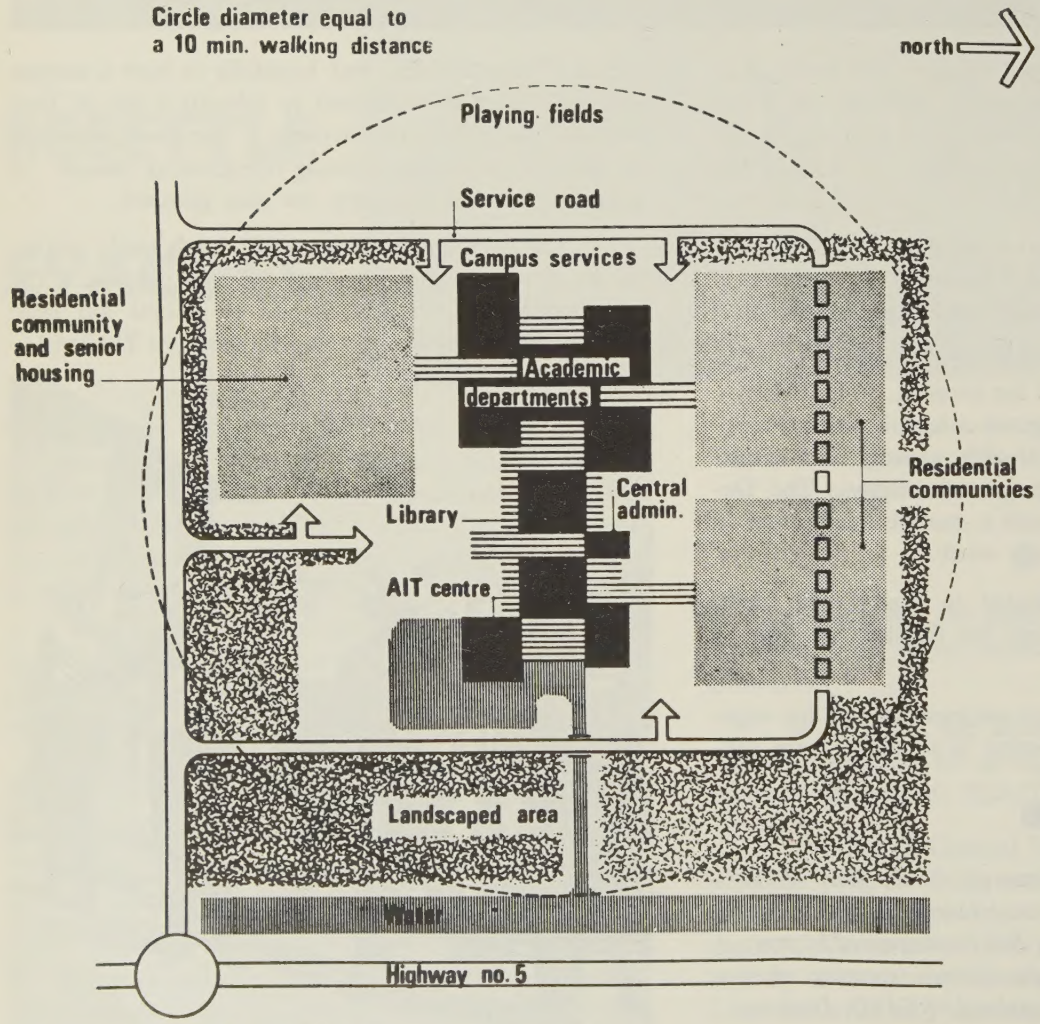
SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus argas (wearing dark glasses) tours one of the tribal esettlement camps at Lom Sak accompanied by army nd police officers. In the centre (wearing white hirt) is Mr. William Copeland, SEATO Director f Public Information.

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TAKES SHAPE

Master plan approved —a big step forward

AT a regular meeting held in Bangkok earlier this year, the Board of Trustees of the Asian Institute of Technology took significant action regarding the future development of the Institute. The Board accepted with gratitude the offer of the United Kingdom to provide architectural and engineering services for the design and construction of the first phase of the new AIT campus.

This grant of technical service is estimated to be valued in excess of $750,000. In subsequent action, the *Development Report and Master Plan* submitted by the firm



Master Plan: Site Layout Diagram.

A master plan for the new campus of the Institute to be situated 42 kilometres north of Bangkok has been developed by the British architectural engineering consortium of Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners with Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners. The proposed site layout is shown in the diagram at left. The ten-year development plan shown will provide for an anticipated population of about 900 students. Within the development area shown in the diagram, three zones are provided.

In the central zone will be situated the AIT Centre, toward the east with provision for expansion mainly within its own area. The library and central administration will be at the heart of the central zone, and academic buildings located toward the west. On the northern and southern flanks of the central zone are to be sited residential communities which will be capable of expansion to the west when required. Initially, all three zones will have considerable capacity for expansion within their own boundaries. The AIT Centre and the library will form an important group of buildings which must satisfy several related functions within the Institute. The library group, which will include the regional library and the computer centre, will serve both the academic area and the needs of special programme students headquartered in the AIT Centre.

Four of the 21 members of the AIT Board of Trustees are pictured here at a recent regular meeting in Bangkok: Mr. James A. Linen (U.S.A.), Mr. J.M. Evans (United Kingdom), Chairman of the Board Dr. Puey Ungphakorn (Thailand), and AIT President Dr. Milton E. Bender, Jr.

Other nations represented on the Board are Australia, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners, hitects, in consortium with Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick Partners, civil engineers, was received by the ıstees and the master plan as presented in the report s approved for further development.

In looking to the future, President Milton E. nder, Jr., outlined the basic assumptions on which velopment of the new campus will take place.

In order to facilitate the funding of individual ldings, the design of the entire first phase is to be npleted by the architectural-engineering consortium quickly as possible.

Each building for the new campus will be built to full planned size in the first phase. Also, completion student dormitory buildings is mandatory before the titute can move to the new campus at Rangsit.

Superimposed upon these fundamental assumpns, President Bender presented to the Board a series financial analyses based on different levels of capital lay.

Working from a minimum programme, for which ee years of capital outlay would total about $5-lion, he showed the effect including additional irable components of the new campus: the AIT ntre, housing for members of the faculty, and ilities for special programmes.

Completion of the optimum plan for the first phase would involve a capital cost of about $9.4-million for the first three years.

In taking action on the President's report, the Trustees adopted a resolution to the effect that sitework should commence in January 1970 so the Institute can occupy the new campus by May 1972.

Further, the Board decided to implement immediately the minimum first-phase development at an expenditure of $5-million, with reappraisal and modification to take place as firm undertakings to provide additional capital funds occur.

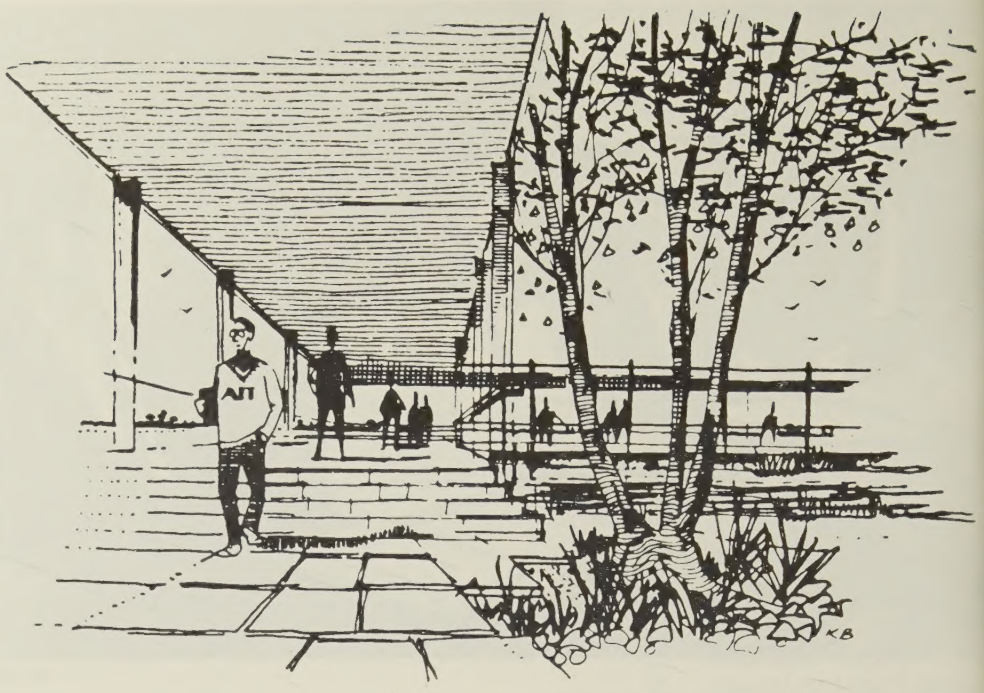
A charitable trust

A commitment of $5.5 million by Thailand, United Kingdom, United States, and Australia to the 10-year capital development programmes was announced by Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The Board also approved resolutions authorizing the American Trustees to take the necessary steps to establish a non-profit corporation and the British Trustees to establish a charitable trust to assist in the financing of the Institute. The objectives of these analogous resolutions are:

(1) to provide a means for private individuals, industrial firms, foundations, and the like to make contributions to the Institute with tax benefits;

Covered ways, such as shown in the artist's impression on the right, will be an essential feature of the academic area of the new AIT campus.



(2) to provide an active and continuing effort toward fund-raising, and other activities important to the development of the Institute.

In other action, the Trustees approved the operating budget for the 1969-70 fiscal year; the amount approved is $2,000,000.

Under the terms of the Charter of the Asian Institute of Technology, all powers of the Institute are vested in the Board of Trustees, a group of individuals consisting of not less than nine nor more than sixty members.

It is further provided that the Board shall be international in character and composition to the highest degree practicable and that it shall always include the President of the Institute.

The present composition of the Board is 21 members, including the President, coming from eleven countries; Australia—1; France—3; Indonesia—1; Malaysia—1; New Zealand—1; Pakistan—1; Philippines—2; Thailand—3; United Kingdom—3: United States—3; and Vietnam—1.

At a recent lunch which he hosted for Trustees and special friends of the Asian Institute of Technology, Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, Chairman of AIT's Board and Governor of the Bank of Thailand, is seen left discussing the Institute's $15,700,000 capital development programme with AIT President Dr. Milton E. Bender, Jr. (right) and Trustee Dr. John A. Hrones, Provost of Science and Technology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

SIA'S

ALANCE

F

OWER

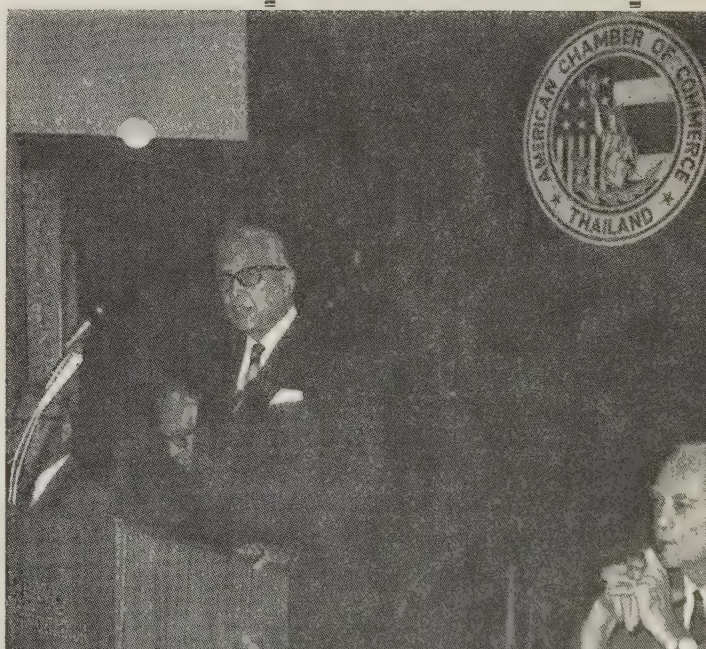
a recent speech before the American Chamber f Commerce in Bangkok, the Secretary-General EATO, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas reviewed various rs likely to affect the "precarious balance of er in Asia" in the future.

Extracts from his speech are as follow:

"The balance of power in Asia is a precarious In speaking of a need to strike and maintain a ble balance, I do so with no little apprehension, rving that the existing power configuration might y be affected not only by developments that have rred, most of them of a continuing character, but and perhaps more importantly, by clear tendencies ecent years in the attitudes of our Western friends allies.

"First, Vietnam. The very bringing together he opposing sides in that imbroglio must be rded as a notable achievement, but it would be alistic to assume that the meetings will necessarily eve a solution to all the problems of that embattled TO protocol State, let alone those of South-East as a whole. One cannot help but assign some lity to the suggestion, arising mainly from the ying tactics of the Communists in Paris, that they there only for expediency: to enter a phase in h every effort would be made to undermine the larity and the resolution of the South Vietnamese their allies; to extend Communist influence in

The future is a precarious one, says SEATO Secretary-General



rural areas so that any future elections would bring optimum benefits to the Communist cause; and to enhance the likelihood of acceptance by the South of a coalition with the Hanoi-dominated National Liberation Front, and thus pave the way for the reunification of the whole of Vietnam as a Communist State.

"With regard to Communist China, recent developments in the region do not seem to encourage any hope that her attitude towards her South-East Asian neighbours will be modified to any appreciable degree in the foreseeable future. On the contrary, there are clear indications that Red China would continue with her intransigent foreign policy, and pursue with even greater vigour its support of insurgency and subversion within the borders of the free countries of South-East Asia.

Hard-line policies

"One only has to study the feverish preparations for the long-delayed Ninth Congress of the Chinese Communist Party scheduled to be held this year, to deduce that the occasion will be used to obliterate any existing internal opposition to Mao Tse-tung's regime, and to consolidate the nation in support of his hard-line policies vis-a-vis the Free World.

"Following a substantially different approach, but fired by the same long-term objectives, namely the exclusion of Western influence and the creation of Communist States, the Soviet Union has embarked on an intensified programme of diplomatic, economic and cultural activities designed covertly and subtly to introduce personnel adept at propagating the Soviet brand of communism, in fomenting unrest and in undermining national confidence in the governments of Free Asia. Indeed, in the context of the Sino-Soviet conflict, the Soviet Union is neither prepared nor expected to write off Asia as a Communist Chinese preserve—an absolute sphere of Chinese influence.

"The distressing fact of the matter is that the two Communist powers are very much in this region, applying their energies not to their own problems at home, which are tremendous in themselves, but to the small nations of non-Communist Asia. God forbid that, at some point in time, Russia should come to within approximate nuclear parity with the strongest Pacific power, the United States of America. And if, in the next couple of years or so, and this is not far-fetched, Communist China should develop a significant measure of deliverable nuclear capability, not controllable under any non-proliferation treaty, the free nations of Asia would then be totally at her mercy. These two possible eventualities, or either one of them, could easily tip the existing precarious balance of power in Asia and spell catastrophic repercussions throughout the Asian world.

Domestic problems

"The one factor of greatest immediate concern to Free Asians today is the unmistakable tendency in the Western World to turn to the home front, to concentrate on domestic problems; in effect, to become isolationist. For various reasons, mainly political and economic, one-time strong and determined allies, with whom Free Asians had in the past cast their lot almost irrevocably in crisis upon crisis, are gradually pulling out of the Asian scene.

"After Dien Bien Phu, France's presence in this part of the world has been limited to that which was necessary to tend her residual interests in the region; this includes her continuing membership in the South-East Asia Treaty Organization, where she has ceased, at least for the present, to participate in military activities although paying her dues to both the military and civil establishments of the Organization and participating actively in its non-military activities.

Effect of U.K. pull-out

"Pursuant to a White Paper on defence released in July 1967 by the British Government, as modified in a subsequent announcement in January last year, all British military forces East of the Suez Canal, except the garrison in Hong Kong, are to be withdrawn gradually during the three-year period ending 31 December 1971.

"The United Kingdom would retain no special military capability for possible deployment to the Far

st after that date. True, the same British announce-
nt emphasized that, with forces drawn from their
neral capability based in Great Britain and in Europe,
y shall retain a capability 'to lend assistance to
ir Commonwealth partners and allies if circumstances
re in their judgment to demand it' and further,
t the United Kingdom shall continue to honour
r obligations in SEATO under the Manila Pact.
t in the final analysis, one cannot deny that the
itish military withdrawal, which is now in progress,
n only adversely affect the Free World defence posture
Asia. Although a number of practical steps designed
help the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore
establish an effective defence system before the
itish withdrawal is completed, have been agreed
on, up until now no fully satisfactory arrangement
s been reached among the partners in respect of
jor aspects of defence policy in the period after
71.

"Not precisely akin to the French and British
litary withdrawals, but sufficiently similar to cause
little concern among Free Asians is the prospect
their strongest friend and ally, the recognized leader
the Free World, the United States of America,
rself opting to reduce, in the next decade or so,
degree of her own participation in the security
airs of Asia.

A frenzied search

"Faced with this grim possibility, many Asians—
eped in the unshakable conviction that it was as
ch in the interest of America and the American
ople as it was in their own that the sinister forces
communism be held in effective check in this part
the world—are visibly, and understandably, disen-
anted and disillusioned.

"Some Asians are today engaged in a frenzied
rch into the inward being, taking stock of their
n capabilities, revising their national development
ns on the basis of the now more practical assumption
at foreign assistance is not forthcoming, and shoring
their defences with their own limited resources.
hers are slowly but steadily shedding their hard line
ti-Communist policies and making preparations to
ablish some form of relations with socialist countries.
any others are seriously looking into the possibility
of a compelling need, ultimately arising, to strike a *modus vivendi* with Red China, without themselves necessarily becoming Communist.....

"This new restraint in American involvement in the security affairs of Asia, if this is to be the shape of American policy here, would operate inevitably to disturb somewhat the very essence and foundation of American bilateral alliances with virtually all non-Communist developing nations in this region. And because those bilateral security arrangements constitute much of the non-Communist weight in the equilibrium of power in Asia, a serious imbalance could result.

Aid on request

"I do not profess to be thoroughly familiar with the details of all the bilateral security agreements of the United States with individual free countries in this area. But I do know, as in the case of Thailand and the Philippines, and I feel it is safe to assume so in respect of the other free Asian countries, that those arrangements envisage some form of American assistance to the Asian ally in the latter's efforts to combat the threat of Communist aggression short of its overt form. I believe that, in most cases, those arrangements provide for American assistance in peace-time training and development of the Asian country's armed forces, the better to enable it to achieve the optimum results in protecting itself against aggression in its more subtle forms.

"My impression is that, in those bilateral arrangements, American assistance against Communist subversion or insurgency is available almost as a matter of form, on request of the small nations. Where the agreement was vague on paper in respect of overt attack, as in the US—Philippine Mutual Defense Agreement, the Asian signatory to the Pact sought

Bilateral aspects

the necessary clarification from the United States and, again as in the Philippine experience, elicited a categorical assurance that an attack against the small

country was, in the official American interpretation, an attack as well against the United States, and as such, would be dealt with by "instant retaliation".

"If in fact those bilateral agreements pertained solely to immediate assistance in respect of overt attack, then they would be of very little moment indeed, in the scheme of affairs of the small countries. For it can be assumed that, if the small developing countries of Asia were directly to be attacked at all by an aggressor, it would likely be only as an offshoot of a direct confrontation between the super-powers.

Bilateral agreements

"I must confess that I find it difficult, therefore, to understand how the United States of America, as a signatory to an interlocking system of bilateral agreements and multilateral alliances, could unilaterally impose any substantial self-restraint in her participation in the security affairs of her allies. While some pacts, as for example the Manila Pact, leave to each signatory the option to act in a manner to be determined in accordance with their own constitutional processess, bilateral agreements are different in that they do not leave room for such complex and deliberate exercise of option, let alone restraint. On the contrary, they demand of either signatory that action be timely, vigorous and decisive.

"The fundamental implications of an American policy of restraint in Asia, may therefore be summarized as follows:

First, free Asians presently applying their limited resources and energies to the solution of nagging problems of economics and development, behind a reassuring shield of protection provided by their fully developed and affluent allies, will now have to redirect part of their resources and energies to the establishment of an indigenous Asian framework for their own long-term security; and

Second, the free countries of the region, no one of which is without a Communist Party of some kind, legitimate or clandestine, and some of which are actually faced with a Communist subversion problem, must redouble their efforts to contain the covert threat to their security and, above all, to ensure that it does not telescope into a problem of armed insurgency.

"On the first, it has been suggested by many, wisely I think, that the possibility of establishing an All-Asian defensive alliance be explored, in the light of the developing coherence of Asian regional thinking. This proposal is by no means impossible. It comes in the wake of an increasing pre-disposition of Asians to seek Asian solutions to Asian problems through regional co-operative action. It addresses itself to nations with a common denominator, namely an acute solidifying consciousness of a common danger, the threat of Communist China to their very existence.

"The formation of an all-Asian defensive alliance, however, is fraught with difficulties; it is not one that can materialize overnight. We all know for a fact that many Asian countries are not prepared for a multiple of reasons at present to accept the concept.

"The present terms of the Japanese Constitution, which provides that "land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained", precludes her taking an active part in the formation of a military association of nations.

Basic animosities

"Furthermore, public opinion in Japan has not quite come up to the level of the present official awareness of military requirements. Also in respect of Japan, a large portion of Asia's population still nurtures not only bitter memories of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, but also distinct fears born out of military conquest.

"The neutralist nations of the region, including some which are among the world's most populous countries, I think, would be reluctant at the present time to join an alliance with a military role.

"One other difficulty arises from the existence among certain non-Communist Asian nations of basic animosities born out of deep-seated controversies, either of the past or currently raging.

"I refer to controversies involving, for instance, India and Pakistan, Thailand and Cambodia, Malaysia and Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia, Japan and Korea, Nationalist China and Japan, and others, which do not lend themselves readily to co-operative undertakings for common security.

"The dominant threat to free Asians today is the real and present danger of Communist subversion. Vietnam arose from subversion. At least half a dozen other free Asian countries in the shadow of Communist China are faced with problems of Communist subversion.

"And because subversion is aimed at undermining national Governments, and because it thrives on national ills and inadequacies and exploits for its sinister ends legitimate national aspirations, the job of countering it is principally a national responsibility.

Containing the threat

"Stated simply, the task of the individual free Asian nations, in respect of countering Communist subversion, is to contain the threat and ensure that it does not worsen in form and in proportion to the more unmanageable problem of armed insurgency.

"In this task, and mainly for its regional members, the South-East Asia Treaty Organization has provided considerable assistance. While continually preparing, refining and updating military defence plans against possible overt Communist aggression in the Treaty Area, including armed insurgency, SEATO has assisted and continues to assist individual Member Governments in combatting the real and more dangerous problem of Communist subversion.

"The true worth of SEATO, as the only multilateral alliance committed to the defence of this region and all its parts against Communist aggression in any form, lies in its ability to deter, as in fact it has managed effectively to deter in the past near decade-and-a-half, Communist overt aggression in this troubled part of the world.

Limited publicity

"The very concept and character of a defensive alliance, such as SEATO, demands that its activities, or at least the greater part of them, are not and must not be made public.

"SEATO has often been taken to task, its objectives and motives often maligned and, as a consequence, its usefulness held in serious doubt by many. And the irony of it is that, first, many of these criticisms have come not always from SEATO's detractors but from its well-meaning friends as well, and that second, SEATO cannot do very much effectively to refute these criticisms without going into it in some great length and, in the process possibly compromising security.

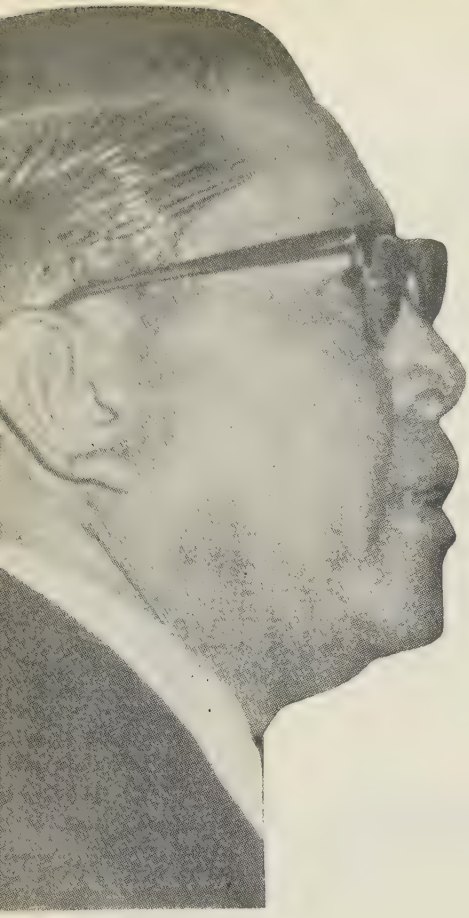
"The fact remains, however, that the security problems of Asia are there in ever-increasing complexity, and SEATO has coped with them, quietly but persistently and effectively. In this respect, SEATO has helped maintain the balance of power in this strategic area.

No absolute monopoly

"By all means, let us better our position in Asia. Let SEATO be improved upon and strengthened, the better to render it more truly responsive to the changed, and still changing requirements of South-East Asia. Let SEATO's work be supplemented by any other group of nations, either already in existence or still to be formed, the better fully to meet the exacting demands of this developing region. After all, it was never meant for SEATO to hold an absolute monopoly, an exclusive franchise, on South-East Asian security. Let SEATO be scuttled, if necessary, but first let us have an equally stable defensive alliance to supplant it with, and fill a definite need.

"All told, let it not be said that, faced with the persistent threat of Communist overt aggression and subversion, we had, at any time, lost heart, given way, and left a security vacuum in this part of the world.

"Let it not be recorded that, either wittingly or unwittingly, we had allowed in Asia a dangerous salient to be created in the defences of the Free World as a whole. Let it not be written in the pages of history, there for every subsequent generation to see, that we had, either through indifference or negligence, or by sheer default, supinely placed half of the world's free population at the mercy of the enemy..."



THAILAND WILL NEVER BE A SECOND VIETNAM

...says Thanat Khoman in 'think again' policy speech

IN a speech entitled "Thailand's Reassessment" at a recent luncheon of The American Management Association in Bangkok, Foreign Minister, Mr. Thanat Khoman, emphasised 'self-reliance', regional co-operation and a possible future dialogue with Peking as three of the ingredients of his country's foreign policy recipe for the future.

Thanat Khoman said there had been speculation in some quarters that Thailand was going to be a second Vietnam, that Thailand would founder, collapse, and disappear from the map. "We in Thailand," he added, "will certainly not oblige those speculators who think consciously or unconsciously, wittingly or unwittingly that Thailand is going to be a second Vietnam. We are not going to be a second Vietnam. In point of fact, we will do everything we can to make a second Vietnam impossible, to make sure that no other country in Asia or elsewhere will become a second Vietnam."

During the past two or three years, Thailand had been co-operating with those of its friends who believed that there should be no other Vietnam.

"We have been co-operating with the small countries in Asia and elsewhere in the world, in the interests of peace, stability and freedom. We have been doing this to uphold what we believe to be the essence of life in the community of nations, namely independence and freedom," Mr. Khoman added.

Mr. Khoman went on to say that with events and circumstances changing so swiftly at the present time it was necessary for Thailand to reassess its position and its policies towards other nations. "But the reassessment is not very easy. Why? Because there are many uncertainties. As I see it, there are at least three important question marks facing Asia.

"The first one is the future policy and attitude of the United States because after all it is one of the two great powers on earth. The second is the future

attitude, policy, and role of Communist China because Communist China is in Asia and is a large and very populous country with some destructive weapons in its possession which may be developed in the future. The third question mark is what is going to become of the non-Communist nations in Asia. How will they work together? How can they close their ranks and band together for common, regional, and perhaps Asian interests"?

Russians on the move

Regarding the future policy of the United States, Mr. Khoman said there had been talk about the future disengagement, withdrawal, and termination of many forms of relationship between America and Asia. Yet while there has been talk of disengagement and withdrawal of American presence in Asia another great power, the Soviet Union has been thinking and acting on entirely opposite lines.

The Soviet Union had sent certain detachments of its fleet into the Indian Ocean. It had been deploying missiles not only in the Mediterranean and the Pacific but also in the Indian Ocean, Mr. Khoman said. It also maintained a very firm foothold in India, Indonesia, and Burma, while it had recently established diplomatic relations with Singapore, Malaysia, and had been now seeking to open up contacts with the Philippines.

"I do not think that these are signs of retraction or disengagement on the part of the Soviet Union. It is if anything the opposite. It is the extension of contacts and influence into this area."

Because of the uncertainty of the future U.S. attitude Mr. Khoman said Thailand should make its own plans without counting on the possible assistance and co-operation of the United States. "If co-operation and assistance are available, so much the better, because we shall certainly welcome it. But we cannot force the United States and the American people to remain in Asia and work with us, therefore it is wiser for us,—and not only for Thailand but for most of the nations of Asia—not to reckon with possible United States commitments."

Regarding the future attitude of Communist China, the Foreign Minister recalled that Peking Foreign Minister Chen Yi had declared guerilla warfare against Thailand and said that Asian leaders with whom he had talked felt that there would be "hardly any chance" of Communist China renouncing its aggressive designs during the next few months.

He said that the best way to handle the situation would be for the non-Communist nations of Asia to get together and "induce Communist China to come out and work with us."

Communist China might possibly even agree upon true peaceful coexistence, he said.

If the non-Communist Asian countries could not come together as in ASPAC (Asia and Pacific Council) and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Peking would continue to constitute a grave threat to them, he said.

There was no way other than regional co-operation for survival, he stressed.

"We have no other choice. Some of the other Asian nations have tried other ways and means. They have tried non-alignment. They have tried to live on close terms with Peking. But neither of these attempts have succeeded. Those who practiced non-alignment were the first to be attacked. Those who tried to live close to Peking are now talking about infiltration and subversion by Communist countries. Therefore, I do not think we have much choice. Either we work together and establish a reasonable basis of co-operation or we perish," said the Foreign Minister.

The 'outer-ring' concept

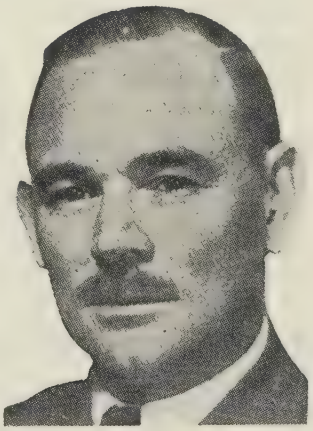
Thailand had to bank its hopes on this new form of co-operation, Mr. Khoman said; first in Asia and then, if possible, with the outside world, with the United States, Europe, and Africa. "But since we live in South-East Asia, we have to look upon South-East Asia as the centre of the world. I hope you will not blame us for that. The other nations will be the outer rings. This concept has nothing disparaging about it. Those nations in the outer rings may be very powerful but their interests might not be the same as ours. That is why we in this country have been advocating self-reliance.

"In other words," Mr. Khoman added, "we should strengthen ourselves first, politically, economically, and socially. That is why we have encouraged all forms of participation by our people in the political, economic and social fields."

Mr. Khoman said Thailand was fortunate in having a united people, and a Monarchy around which they could rally. The King was not just a figurehead or a symbol "but the heart and mind and soul of the Thai people."

AUSTRALIA:

External Affairs Minister Sir Paul Hasluck



BECOMES

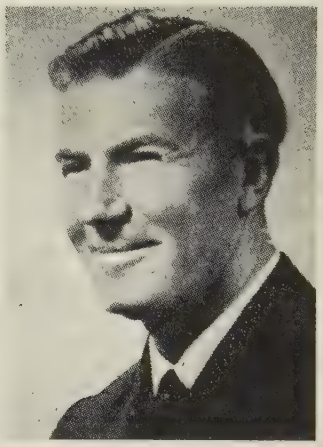
The Governor-General

SIR Paul Hasluck has resigned as Australian Minister for External Affairs in order to take up his appointment by the Queen as Governor-General in succession to Lord Casey, who will retire at the end of this month. The appointment was announced simultaneously in London and Canberra earlier this year.

Succeeding Sir Paul Hasluck as new Minister For External Affairs is the Minister of Air Mr. Gordon Freeth, who was sworn into his new office in February.

Meanwhile, the present Governor General, Lord Casey, who is 78, is retiring after being in office for three years, with his simultaneous appointment by the Queen as a Knight of the Most Noble Order of The Garter. Sir Paul Hasluck has been made a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George (G.C.M.G.).

Minister For Air, Mr. Gordon Freeth,



BECOMES

External Affairs Minister

The new Minister of Air is Mr. G. D. Erwin the former Government Whip.

Speaking of the new appointments and honours, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. J. C. Gorton, said that Sir Paul, a second generation Australian, had given long and devoted service to Australia in many fields of public endeavour. "As a public servant he was the first Australian permanent representative at the United Nations; as an historian he was entrusted with the task of writing the volumes of the governmental history of World War II; and as a Minister of State he has carried out his duties with distinction. It is doubtful whether any other Australian is as well and favourably known to the Governments of overseas countries, particularly those countries nearest to our north."

Lord Casey is the first Australian to have become a Knight of the Garter, the oldest and highest order of British chivalry and which is limited to 24 Knight members.

Lord Casey is already a life peer, a Knight Grand Cross, of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (G.C.M.G.) and a Companion of Honour (C.H.). Paying tribute to Lord Casey, Mr. Gorton said: "I believe all Australians will share a sense of satisfaction at Her Majesty's gracious appointment of Lord Casey to be a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter."

"It is fitting that this great Australian, at the close of his most remarkable, varied and distinguished career of devoted public service, both at home and abroad, should be appointed to this, the most ancient and noble order of chivalry.", said Mr. Gorton.

The Hon, Gordon Freeth, LL. B., M. P., was born on August 6, 1914, at Angaston, South Australia. His father is the Rt. Rev. R.E. Freeth, formerly Assistant Bishop of Perth. Mr. Freeth was educated at Sydney Church of England Grammar School and the University of Western Australia.

He has been a Barrister and solicitor in Western Australia since 1938. From 1939 to 1949 he practised at Katanning, Western Australia.

He was a pilot in the Royal Australian Air Force in World War II from 1942 to 1945.

Mr. Freeth was first elected to the House of Representatives for Forrest, Western Australia, in 1949. He became Minister for the Interior and Minister for Works in 1958 and Minister Assisting the Attorney-General in 1961. In the reconstructed Menzies Ministry announced on December 17, 1963, he was made Minister for Shipping and Transport. He continued in this portfolio in the Holt Ministry. He became Minister for Air in February, 1968.

He was a member of the Australian delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at Wellington, New Zealand, in 1950; and led the Australian delegation to the annual meeting of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee at Jogjakarta in 1959. He was acting Attorney-General in May-July, 1962, and again in December, 1962, and in May, 1966. In 1965 he was the Leader of a Parliamentary Delegation which toured Singapore, Japan,Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines.

In 1968 he led a Parliamentary Mission to Italy, Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to study the economic and trading policies of the European Economic Community and possible effects on Australia should Britain join the Common Market.

In December, 1968, he visited Australian forces in South-East Asia and represented the Commonwealth Government for Christmas celebrations with the troops in Vietnam. Since March, 1968, Mr. Freeth has been acting Minister for External Affairs on six different occasions for a total of thirteen weeks. He married in 1939 and has a son and two daughters.

GEN. YAHYA KHAN SWORN IN AS NEW PAKISTAN PRESIDENT

GENERAL Yahya Khan became President fo Pakistan at the end of last month.

The Government issued a statement in the Capital, Rawalpindi, saying that Gen. Yahya, 52, was assuming the Presidency until a new constitution was framed in Pakistan.

Gen. Yahya had taken over as Martial Law Administrator seven days earlier when President Ayub Khan, 61, stepped down after ruling Pakistan for ten years.

On taking over the military rule of the country Gen. Yahya said in a nation-wide broadcast that martial law had been imposed solely for the purpose of protecting "life, liberty and property of the people and to put the administration back on the rails."

Gen. Yahya, a veteran infantry officer of World War Two, has had a long and distinguished military career. He becomes the third President of Pakistan.

DEFENCE PLEDGE

Australia, New Zealand Reassure Malaysia, Singapore

SOUTH-EAST Asian nations generally reacted favourably to recent pledges by Australia and New Zealand to continue to station forces in Malaysia and Singapore following the British withdrawal from the region by 1971.

Indeed, the recent statement by the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, on Australia's defence commitments in South-East Asia spelled out several things which many people inside as well as outside Australia had been hoping to hear.

As expected, and as the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore in particular have been strongly hinting would be desirable, Australia will station ground forces as well as Naval and Air units in Malaysia/Singapore for an indefinite period after the British withdrawal.

This should firmly dispose of fears of Australian isolationism. A continuing Australian commitment to the security of South-East Asia cannot now be doubted.

But that commitment will be a regional commitment rather than a commitment to individual countries. As Mr. Gorton emphasised, the kind of situation in which it is envisaged Australian forces would be used is "against externally promoted and inspired Communist infiltration and subversion".

In the light of that, the Prime Minister's announcement that Australian ground troops would be retained in Malaysia and Singapore after the British withdrawal has particular significance. It is evidence of Australia's continuing and serious involvement in the regional security of South-East Asia and is a firm declaration of intent.

Non-aggression pacts

Australia does not intend its forces to be used for the maintenance of internal civil law and order. But, as Mr. Gorton said, Australia "could not turn our backs on our neighbours, refuse to help provide forces for their security, and wash our hands of the possible consequences".

An inportant point in the Prime Minister's statement concerned the need for non-aggression pacts between the countries of the South-East Asian region. In this respect Mr. Gorton referred to the dispute between the Philippines and Malaysia over Sabah. He Said Australia respected the territorial integrity of all the countries in the region and believed that all governments in the region should do the same.

Mr. Gorton noted that the Philippines Government had given an assurance to the former Minister for External Affairs that it would not pursue its claim to Sabah by armed attack. He added that respect for territory could be achieved in various ways, some directed at removing the causes of disagreement, others directed at creating an atmosphere in which solutions could be sought.

Mr. Gorton said: "One possibility that has appealed to us as an aim is the attainment of a non-aggression pact, or pacts, whereby the countries of the region would declare their intentions of never resorting to force against one another—and of respect for existing territorial boundaries".

Mr. Gorton, said Australia would contribute 1,200 men to a combined force of two battalions, which would be stationed in Singapore. Two squadrons of Mirage aircraft would be based in Malaysia, except for eight, which would go to Singapore.

Australia and New Zealand would each keep one naval vessel in the area at all times.

Mr. Gorton said Australia would continue to help train Malaysian and Singapore forces and would continue its financial aid to the defence of the two countires.

Continued interest in area

The United States said the decision by Australia and New Zealand would strengthen the stability in the area.

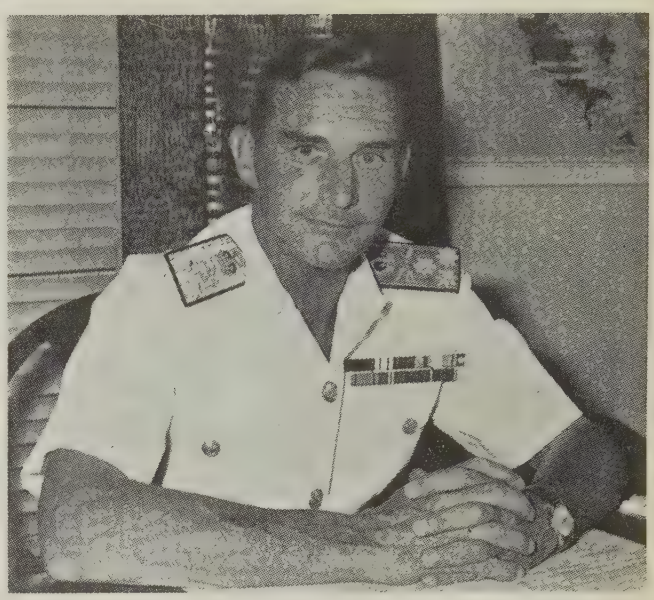
Earlier, the Prime Ministers of Malaysia and Singapore also welcomed the Australian and New Zealand announcement which they said illustrated continued interest in the defence, welfare and economic growth of the area.

Meanwhile, the Chief of the British General Staff, Sir Geoffrey Baker, said the British Army is hoping to use military bases in Malaysia and Singapore for training purposes, after its withdrawal from the area in 1971.

Sir Geoffrey, who was speaking to newsmen in Hong Kong, said Britain was planning to maintain the jungle warfare training school at Kota Tinghi in Malaysia, on a five-power basis. British troops would be flown to the bases for the exercises.

In addition, Britain would also continue to take part in five-power exercises in the Far East with Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore.

U.K. Admiral becomes new SEATO Military Adviser



ADMIRAL Sir Peter Hill-Norton, who was appointed United Kingdom Commander-in-Chief, Far East, last month, is the new U.K. Military Adviser to SEATO. He succeeds General Sir Michael Carver.

Admiral Sir Peter Hill-Norton was born in February 1915 and entered the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth as a cadet in 1928. He first went to sea as a Midshipman in 1932 and was promoted to Sub-Lieutenant in 1935. In 1939 he qualified in gunnery.

During the early part of the war he served in the North Western approaches; in 1941 he was appointed Gunnery Officer of the Cruiser, HMS Cumberland, which was engaged in the protection of convoys to Russia.

Between 1959 and 1961 he commanded the Aircraft Carrier, HMS Ark Royal. He was promoted to Rear Admiral in January 1962 and served until 1964 as Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff in the Admiralty. From there he was appointed Flag Officer Second-in-Command, Far East Fleet, where most of his service between 1964 and 1966 was spent aboard various ships of the Fleet during the period of confrontation between Malaysia and Indonesia. He was promoted to Vice-Admiral in August 1965.

In August 1967 he became Vice Chief of the Naval Staff responsible for naval operations, planning and future policy. He was promoted Admiral in October 1968. He was created CB in January 1964 and KCB in January 1967.

SEATO courses help solve planning problems

Pictured here on their visit to the Bangkok Port are four members of the New Zealand Ministry of Defence. They are from left to right Major J.A. Sanders, Squadron Leader H.J. Coventry, Lieut Commander A.C. Coutts and Mr. M.L Adams.

THE value of Orientation Courses organized by the Military Planning Office is keeping an increasing number of officers of the armed forces of Member Nations posted on SEATO's aims and activities. This was stressed by SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. General Jesus Vargas when he addressed the 55 students of the latest course recently.

"The very concept and character of a defensive alliance demand that its activities, or at least the greater part of them, are not made public," he said. "Because of this SEATO is necessarily often misunderstood and taken to task, its objectives and motives often maligned and its usefulness held in serious doubt."

He said the fact remained that the security problems of Asia were there and that SEATO, as the multilateral alliance committed to the defence of the region against Communist aggression in any form had coped with them, quietly and effectively.

"By all means, let us improve our position", continued General Vargas. "Let SEATO be improved upon and strengthened, the better to render it more truly responsive to the changed and still changing requirements of South-East Asia."

Members of the course came from Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and United States. After two days of briefings at the SEATO Military Planning Office in Bangkok and a visit to the Bangkok Port the course went on an extensive tour through North-East and North-West Thailand.

By the time the 8-day course had concluded the students had gained a far greater understanding of the purposes of the Organization, and the changing situation within which it operates.

A further two orientation courses will be conducted by the SEATO Military Planning Office this year.

Members of the orientation course are seen here leaving the 31st field hospital at Camp Friendship, Korat, which they visited during their tour.

40 SEATO map experts get together

FOR the first time an observer from CENTO attended a recent SEATO Cartographic meeting when the 4th Cartographic Committee met at the SEATO Military Planning Office, Bangkok. He was Commander P.L. Merywon, Royal Navy, the CENTO Cartographic Officer, who travelled from Ankara, Turkey, to attend the five-day conference.

Senior cartographers from Australia, France, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and United States were among the 40 delegates who attended the meeting which furthered the considerable progress achieved by SEATO Member Nations in standardising their mapping and charting techniques and procedures.

In addition to the exchange of information given formally and informally between the participating Member Nations, the United Kingdom and United States delegates gave special talks to delegates and members of the SEATO Military Planning Office.

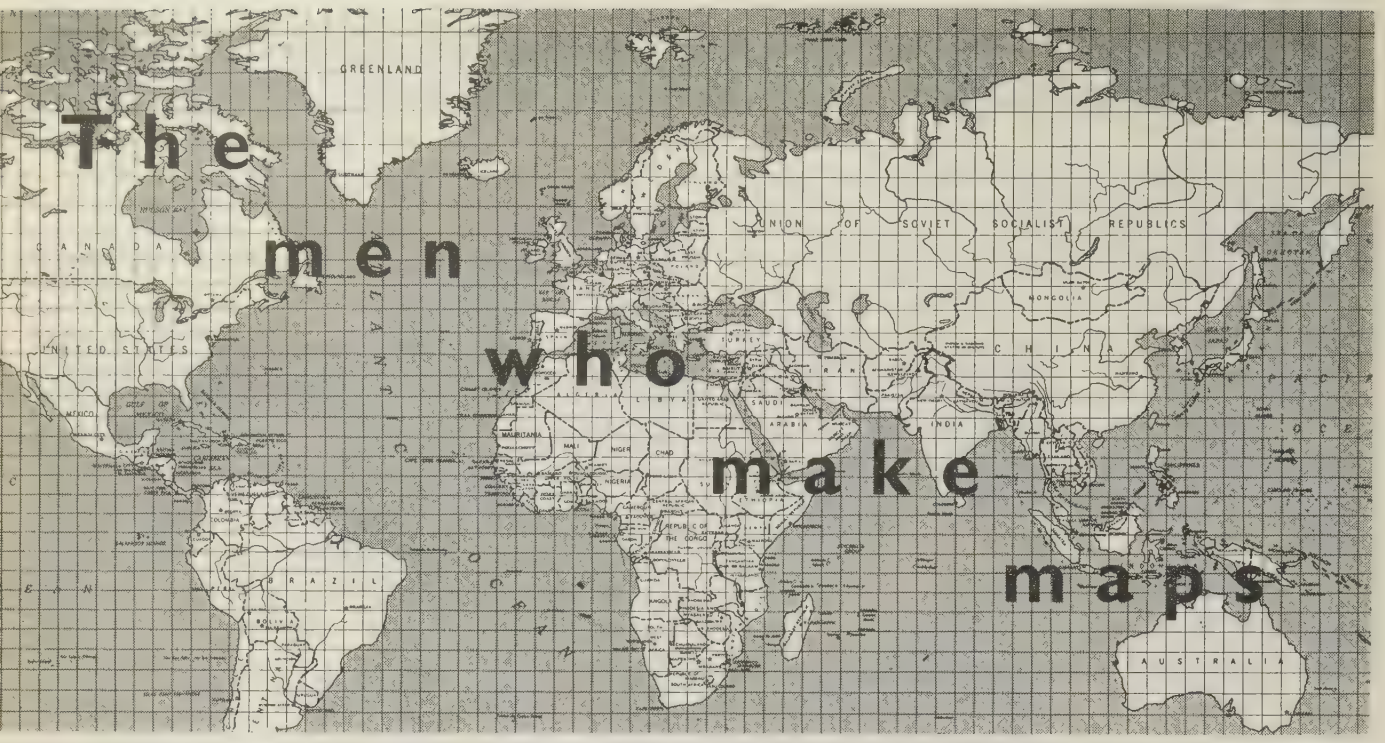
Brigadier B.St.G. Irwin, the United Kingdom, Director of Military Survey, who chaired the meeting, spoke on the achievements made in Britain in developing map display equipment for navigational use by high speed, low-level flying aircraft.

The United States senior delegate, Colonel R.E. Herndon, assisted by Colonel S.J. Hawthorn, gave a talk on the progress made by the US in developing an all-weather mapping capability.

Lieut. Col. R.H. Stafford, Royal Engineers, the SEATO Cartographic Officer, was responsible for co-ordinating the Conference. Last October he attended the CENTO Cartographic Meeting as an observer.

In the above picture Mr. A. Caillemer, (left) the French Delegate talks with the Chairman of meeting, Brigadier B. St. G. Irwin, Director of Military Survey in the United Kingdom. On the right is Lieut. Col R.H. Stafford.

Commander P.E. Menyon, the CENTO Cartographic Officer who attended the SEATO meeting as an observer, is pictured here (left), during a reception given for delegates by the Military Planning Office.



The men who make maps

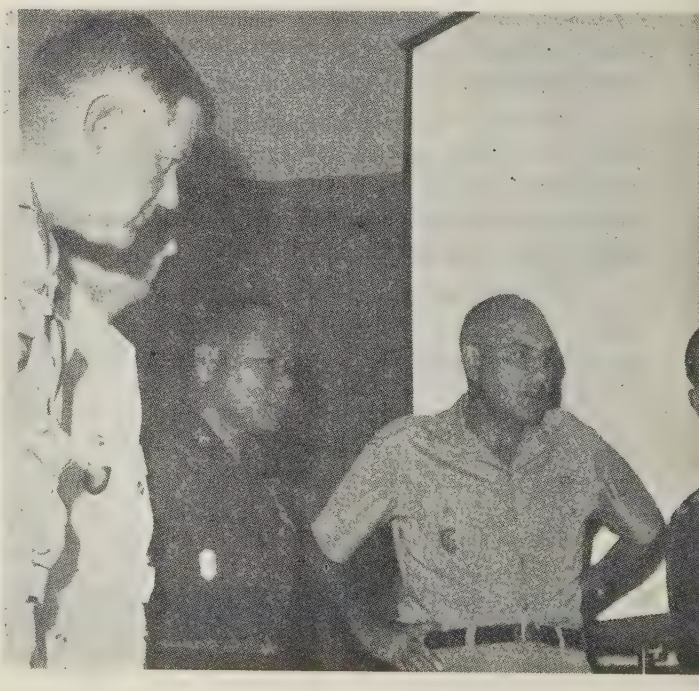
AN opportunity to see maps being produced by some of the most up-to-date mapping procedures was the highlight of a visit to the Royal Thai Survey Department made recently by a team from the SEATO Military Planning Office.

Led by Major General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, other members of the group were Captain R.E. Wilson, RN, the United Kingdom Military Advisers Representative Lieut. Col. R.H. Stafford, RE, the SEATO Cartographic Officer and Lieutenant Colonel G.H. Ripley, USMC, a member of the SEATO Planning Division.

The group was met at the Royal Thai Survey Department by the Director, Lieutenant General Somboon Vichitranuja and was then briefed on the Department by Major General Chumphon Kulkasem.

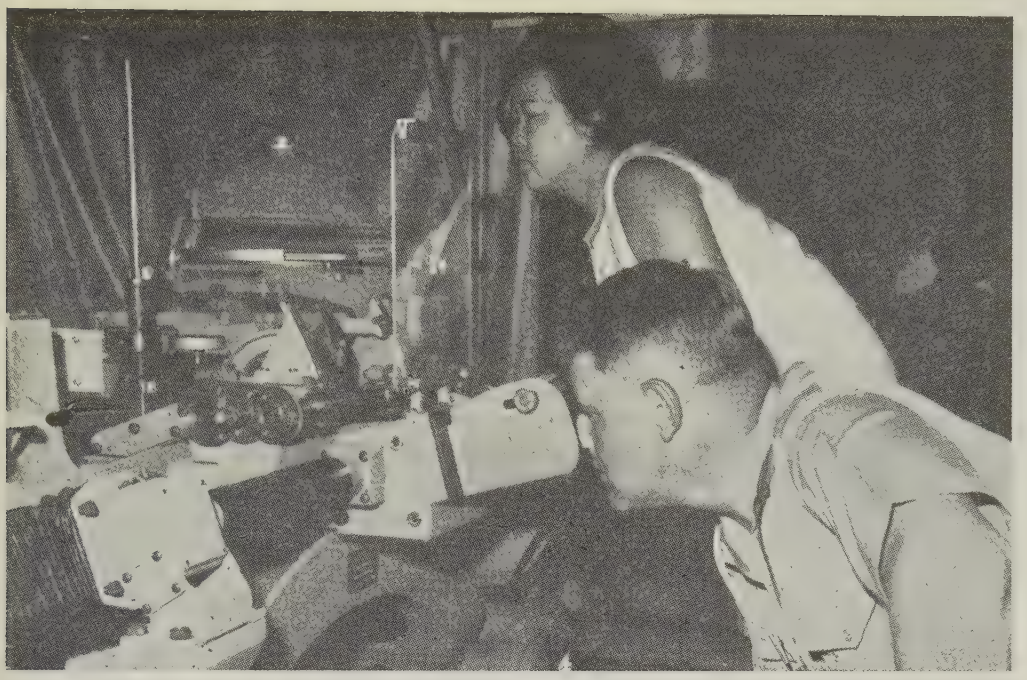
Major General Chumphon explained how the department was formed in 1885 and today had developed into an organization consisting of 13 divisions and the Survey School with a total staff of over 950.

"Thailand has mapping agreements with the USA, UK, and Malaysia" he said "which has greatly facili-



Major General Chumphon Kulkasem (right) of the Royal Thai Survey Department briefing Major General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, who recently led a group of SEATO officers on a visit to the Department.

Others in the photograph from left to right are Lieut. Col. G.H. Ripley, USMC, SEATO; Captain R.E. Wilson, RN, United Kingdom Military Advisers Representative to SEATO; Lieut. Gen. Somboon Vichitranuja, Director of the Royal Thai Survey Department; and General Maroun.



Lieut. Col. George H. Ripley, watches maps being produced in the Photogrammetre Mapping Division of the Royal Thai Survey Department.

Colonel Ripley was among the group of officers who visited the Department in company with the Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun.

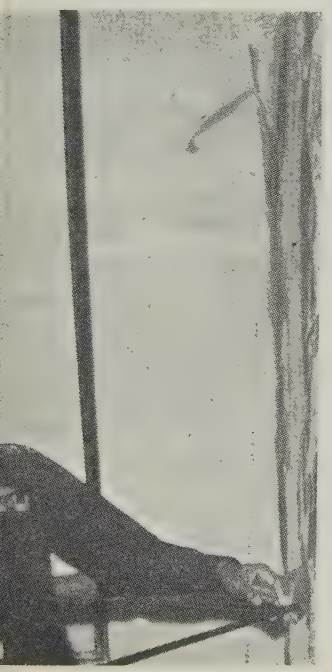
tated the Department's ability for mapping the whole area of Thailand and the international boundary areas."

The Royal Thai Survey Department supports in the mapping field not only the Thai Supreme Command and the three armed services but also the Irrigation, Forestry, Public Welfare, Land Development, Harbour, Natural Resources and Public Relations Departments.

It also assists the National Energy Authority, The State Railways of Thailand and the Committee of Narcotic Suppression.

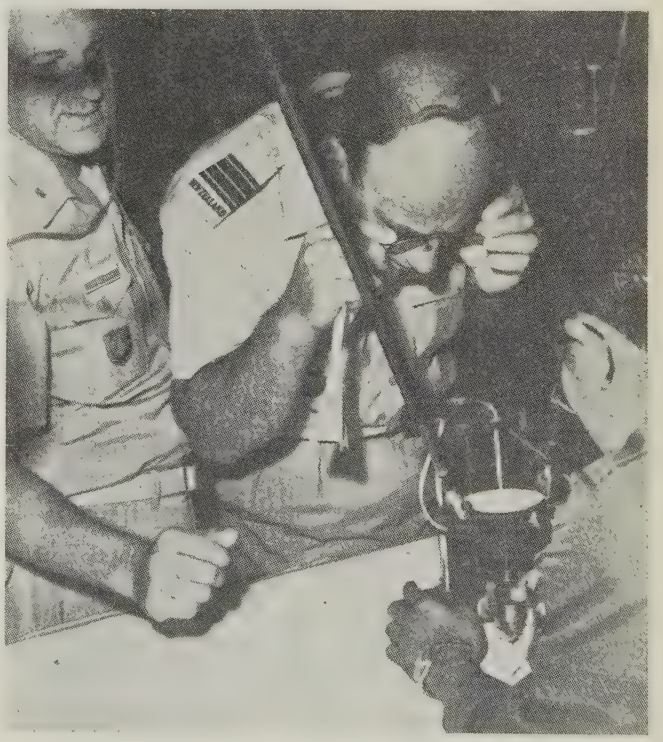
After the briefing the SEATO officers visited the Division of Aerial Photographs, the Photogrammetric Mapping Division and Reproduction Division.

At some later date it is hoped that Lieutenant General Somboon and representatives of his Department will visit SEATO Headquarters.



Lieut. Col. G.H. Ripley, USMC (left) and Wing Commander H.K. Griffiths, Royal New Zealand Air Force, and the Deputy Director (Military) of the SEATO Public Information Office, watch maps being made at the Royal Thai Survey Department.

The instrument being used is a 'Contoning' machine which magnifies the area of a map under examination and with the use of special glasses gives a three dimensional effect.



EACH YEAR THE SEATO MILITARY PLANNING OFFICE IN BANGKOK CONDUCTS FAMILIARISATION TRIPS WITHIN THAILAND TO ENABLE OFFICERS FROM THE SEATO MEMBER NATIONS TO LEARN MORE OF THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE AND TO OBTAIN LOGISTIC INFORMATION FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. DESCRIBED HERE IS THE LATEST TRIP MADE TO THE HISTORIC THREE PAGODAS PASS ON THE BORDERS OF BURMA.

SEATO officer

Pagodas Pass

. . . AND TRAVEL BY TRAIN ON 'DEATH RAILWAY'

. . . then by truck which bogs down

ONLY about 40 miles is still in use today of the infamous 250-mile Thai-Burma "Death Railway", which claimed the lives of more than 116,000 people during the year it took to construct.

For a group of SEATO officers who travelled this stretch recently aboard a rickety old wood-burning train as part of a familiarization trip to the Three Pagodas Pass on the Burmese border, it was a vivid reminder of the sufferings and deprivations undergone by those thousands who toiled and died 37 years ago on a project which has gone down in history as one of the great tragedies of the Second World War.

The group of eight officers from the SEATO Military Planning Office who undertook this journey were Lieutenant Commander R.J. Tulip, Lieutenant Colonel K.J.A. Fleming and K.J. Taylor, of Australia; Captain Chob Sirodom and Lieutenant Colonel Boonsong Keovichit, of Thailand; Lieutenant Colonel R.H. Stafford, United Kingdom; and Lieutenant Colonel E.P. Ford and Commander E.B. Sorenson, of the United States.

The visit to the Three Pagodas Pass, an ancient invasion route high up in the Kanjanaburi jungles on the

visit Three

Burmese Border proved to be one of most interesting and exciting of several familiarisation trips made annually by SEATO officers to all parts of Thailand.

The party travelled by road from Bangkok to Kanjanaburi where they boarded a wood-burning train to travel along the 40 mile stretch of the Thai-Burma Railway line still in use to Wang Po. This in itself was quite an experience. The train was packed with local people and goods as it left Kanjanaburi at 6 a.m. the engine throwing off a trail of sparks in the half light as it rattled through what is now a well-developed farming area.

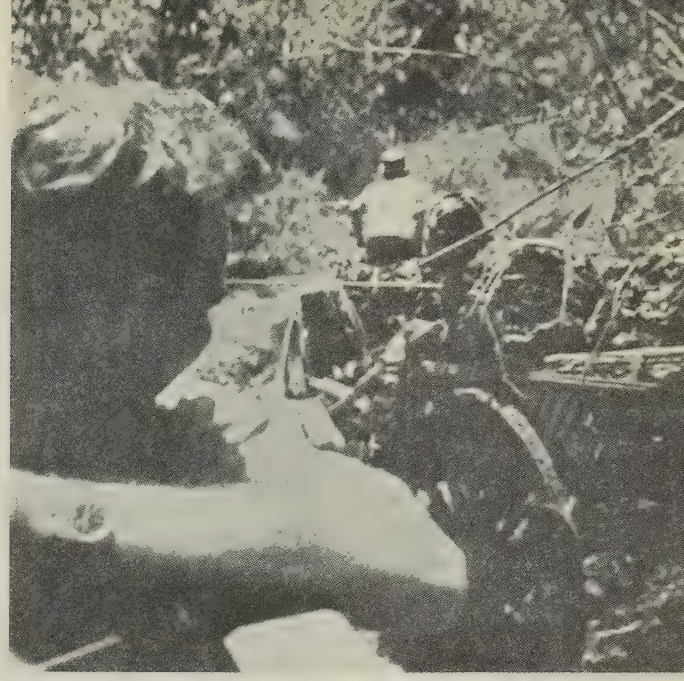
By 8 a.m., the train had reached the terminal at Wang Po and the party began organising river transport for the 95-mile trip up the River Kwai to Thong Pha Phum.

Thong Pha Phum was reached at dusk just in time for the group to join the local villagers taking their evening swim in the river. That night they dined with the local headman, and the following morning set off to cover the remaining 72 miles to the Three Pagodas Pass.

But the group were somewhat apprehensive when they saw their transport: it was a much used and badly battered 1942 Chevrolet truck. Fifteen Thai Border Police joined the 8-man SEATO party for the trip.

The road they travelled wound its way up long ridges and plunged down into deep gullies full of potholes. Occasionally traces of the railway embankment (the track and sleepers have all been pulled up) could be seen.

Later that day, after the truck under the skillful handling of its driver had covered about three quarters of the journey, the right front wheel assembly suddenly disintegrated. This seemed to put an end to the journey, stranded as they were miles away from any village. Nevertheless, the ever cheerful driver assured them that they would reach their destination at Sangklaburi that night. Undeterred, he set off on foot down the track while the group looked round for a place to bivouac for the night. Around dusk, having found a deserted hut which would afford some shelter the party was walking back to the vehicle to collect their gear when to their amazement, there appeared the driver with a bullock cart loaded with a brand new wheel assembly. Within 20 minutes the truck was once again on its way.

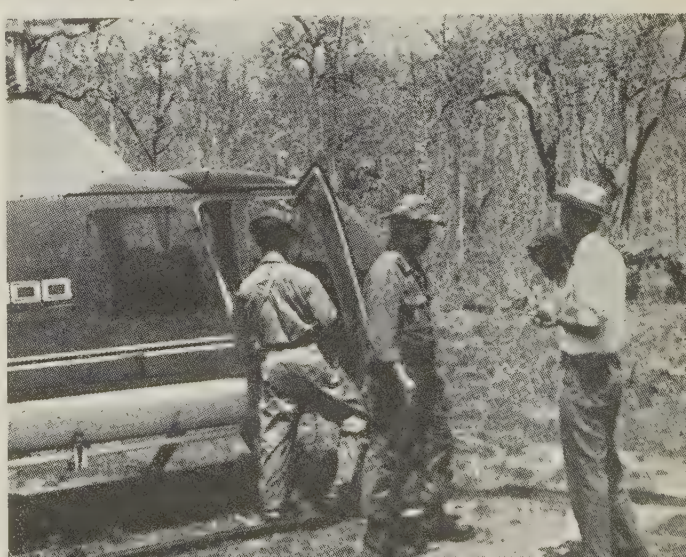


Lieutenant Colonel K. J. Fleming of Australia, the SEATO Medical Staff officer, watches as an ox cart eases past the truck on the narrow track to the Three Pagodas Pass.

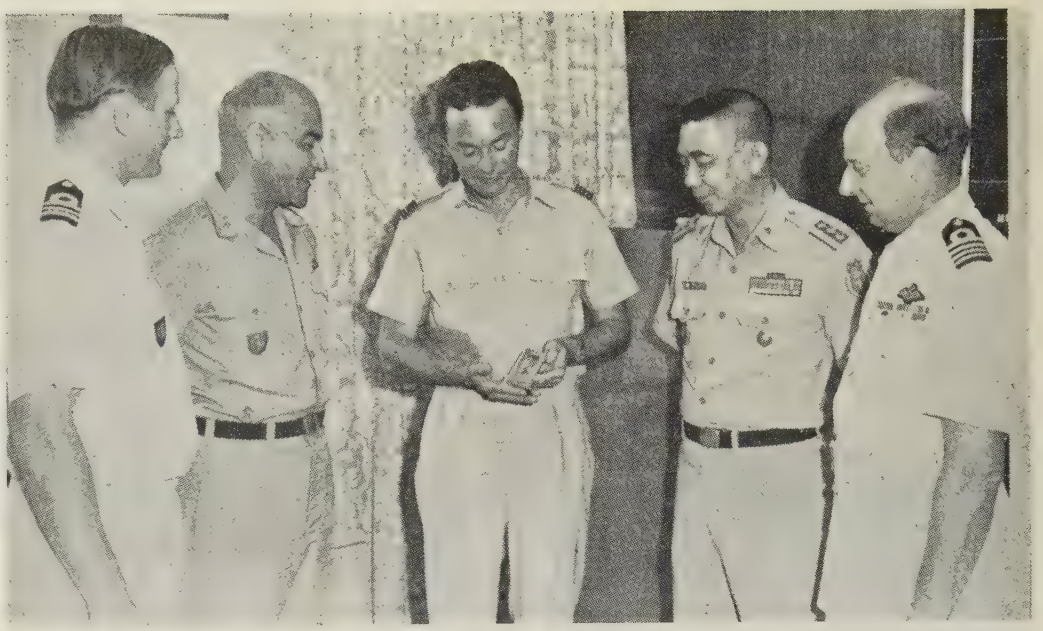
At Sangklaburi, the group was welcomed by the local government heads. Next day the group again travelled aboard the truck to the Three Pagodas Pass itself. All felt a sense of achievement on arrival at this remote but historically significant pass which has been a traditional invasion route through the centures.

While actually at the Pagodas, a helicopter brought in a Border Police colonel who briefed the group on the local area. The group returned to Sangklaburi that night then retraced their steps back to Bangkok.

A helicopter of the Border Patrol Police is seen below at the Three Pagodas Pass. Members of the patrol briefed the SEATO group on the layout and terrain of the Region.



ITEMS IN BRIEF



● Squadron Leader G.A. Sherman-Ball, RAF, left Bangkok recently after serving for 2 years as Assistant Secretariat Officer in the SEATO Military Planning Office. In the picture on the right (centre) he shows a souvenir paper weight presented to him by the Organization by the Chief of the Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun.

From left to right in the photograph are Squadron Leader Sherman-Ball's replacement, Lieut. Commander J.S. Merrillees, RAN; General Maroun; the Squadron Leader; Colonel Roberto C, Victorino, PC, Head of Administration; and Captain R.E. Wilson, RN, the UK Military Advisers' Representative at the SEATO Military Planning Office.

● In one of their most dramatic major victories since arriving in Vietnam Thailand's Black Panther division, last month killed 109 Viet Cong terrorists in a fierce four-hour battle that raged near the division's temporary base at Loc An village.

Only two companies of Black Panthers were involved and close hand-to-hand fighting occurred at one stage after the Viet Cong had attempted to "soften up" Thai posts with heavy mortar and rocket shells.

The enemy left rifles, rockets, machine-guns and a large number of arms and ammunition behind when they fled in retreat.

Immediately upon receiving the report of the fighting, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, Deputy Supreme Commander, General Prapass Charusathira and Military Staff-Chief Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya radioed their congratulations to the Panthers on their victory.

● Chief Petty Officer Writer R. Lambie RAN (right) who left Thailand recently after serving for two years as the Publication Officer in the SEATO Military Planning Office, Bangkok, is seen in the picture on the left handing over a few piles of the thousands of SEATO publications he has been responsible for to his successer Staff Sergeant M.J. Fridolf, ARA. Chief Petty Officer Lambie's next posting is to HMAS Cerebus, near Melbourne.

Staff Sergeant Fridolf, whose hometown is Liverpool, New South Wales, prior to coming to Bangkok served at the Infantry centre at Ingleburn NSW. He has also seen active service in Malaysia and Vietnam.

● Lieut. Gen. Sir Peter Hunt, General Officer Commanding, United Kingdom Far East Land Forces, arrived in Thailand from his Headquarters in Singapore recently and during his stay in Bangkok he visited SEATO Headquarters. He is seen above with the SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas (left) and the Deputy Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, Captain Chop Sirodom (right), Royal Thai Navy.

● Rear Admiral M.D. Kyrie Pope, the Chief of Staff to the United Kingdom Military Adviser to SEATO, visited SEATO Headquarters recently for discussions with the Military Planning Office.

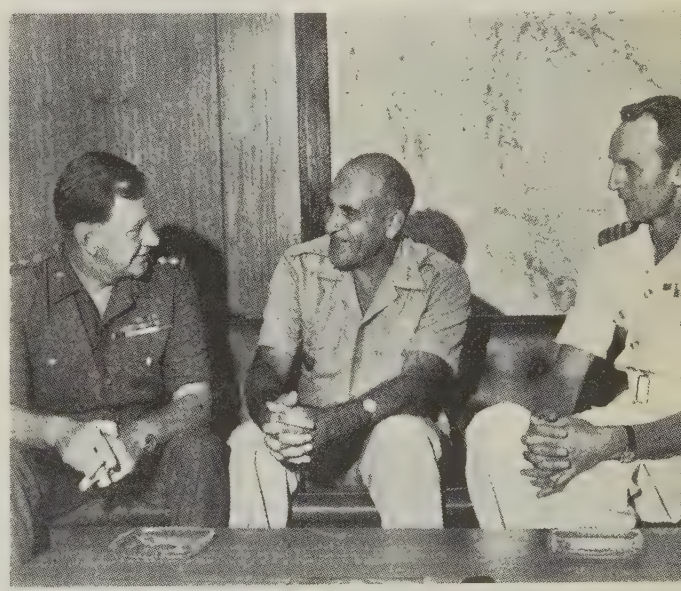
He is pictured below being introduced to the SEATO Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. D.A. Wraight, by the Secretary-General, General Jesus Vargas (right).

Second from left is the United Kingdom Military Adviser's Representative, Captain R.E. Wilson, Royal Navy.

● Colonel R.W.K. Ainge, the new Commander of the New Zealand Army Force Far East, Singapore, recently paid his first visit to Thailand since taking up his appointment.

While in Bangkok he had discussions with the SEATO Military Planning Office and met New Zealand service personnel at SEATO.

In the picture below Colonel Ainge (left) talks with Major General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office. On the right is Captain M.J. McDowell, RNZN, the New Zealand Military Adviser's Representative at SEATO Headquarters.



While in Thailand Colonel Ainge also visited the New Zealand Army Engineer detachment building a road at Mahasarakham in North-East Thailand.

● Major General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, made a familiarisation visit to the Republic of the Philippines in late February. The visit was made at the invitation of the Philippines Military Adviser, General Manuel Yan.

General Maroun, accompanied by the Military Advisers' Representatives of other SEATO Member Nations, held discussions with Philippine Government and Armed Forces leaders and visited military installations. As Chief of the Military Planning Office, General Maroun has made visits to other South-East Asian Countries and New Zealand.

SEATO NATIONS TO STUDY 500-WORD SURVEY REPORT

Pictured (from left): General Vargas; Mr. Rhind; Mr. S. M.H. Rizvi, SEATO Director of Cultural and Economic Affairs; and Mr· A.B. Castro, SEATO Director of Community Development.

phase one of agricultural project finished

A YEAR of intensive survey work carried out by 12 consultants—all experts in various spheres of agriculture—in the three developing member nations of SEATO, Thailand, Pakistan and the Philippines, has now culminated in a 500-page report on findings and recommendations which was presented last month to SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut Gen. Jesus Vargas, by the project co-ordinator, Mr. D. Rhind, before his return to the United Kingdom.

And so has ended the first phase of the SEATO Regional Agricultural Research Project, which was launched just over a year ago.

The second phase will follow shortly and will consist of a close study of the report and recommendations by all member governments with a view to selecting those which would be of greatest practical value in accelerating agricultural development.

In an interview before his departure for England, Mr. Rhind explained some aspects of the report and touched on certain projects for Thailand recommended for further consideration.

Thailand, for example, he thought an ideal place for setting up regional laboratories and research centres dealing with various aspects of agriculture.

"A truly viable regional centre," Mr. Rhind said, "at least where agriculture is concerned, is most often started out as a national centre—a project planned and implemented in direct response to some national needs and problems. Results produced by such a centre are of course useful mainly to the country concerned but at the same time they are often capable of being easily transplanted to other countries in the same area."

"Thailand has many such national centres," Mr. Rhind pointed out, citing as an example the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Laboratory at Nong Sarai near Pak Chong in the northeastern province of Nakorn Rajasima. "You have there a modern, well-equipped laboratory with facilities for making two types of foot-and-mouth vaccines simultaneously.

"There is a need, however, for another laboratory where field specimens sent in could be identified and typed. At present they have to be typed in vaccine-producing laboratories or sent to the World Foot-and-Mouth Disease Reference Centre in England for

typing. If a typing laboratory was set up at Nong Sarai, it could well become the international foot-and-mouth disease reference centre for South-East Asia."

Under Mr. Rhind's direction and co-ordination, 12 agricultural specialists from SEATO member nations have been carrying out their studies as consultants to the SEATO Project in spheres of agriculture including agronomy, agricultural economics, inland fisheries, forestry, soil science, and extension services.

Another Thai centre mentioned by Mr. Rhind as having potential for evolving further into a regional establishment is the Marine Fisheries station in Songkhla, southern Thailand, with its continuing research programme on shrimps and prawns.

Praising agricultural research in Thailand in general, Mr. Rhind said he would like to see more attention given to programmes for greater crop diversification for the north eastern region of the country.

"The relative dryness of the area can be taken advantage of by the cultivation and improvement of dry crops," Mr. Rhind said. "Some of these crops are animal food. So in this way you can combine crop diversification with animal husbandry and make progress in both."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Other recommendations the report makes include the following for Thailand:

- *New Laboratory should be set up at Nong Sarai (near Pakchong) for typing Foot-and-Mouth Disease Viruses. This laboratory should become the International Foot-and-Mouth Disease Reference Centre for South-East Asia.*

- *Support should be given for soil moisture and soil physics research at the Experimental and Demonstration Farm at Kalasin for improving dry crop husbandry and to Khon Kaen and Chieng Mai Universities for similar work.*

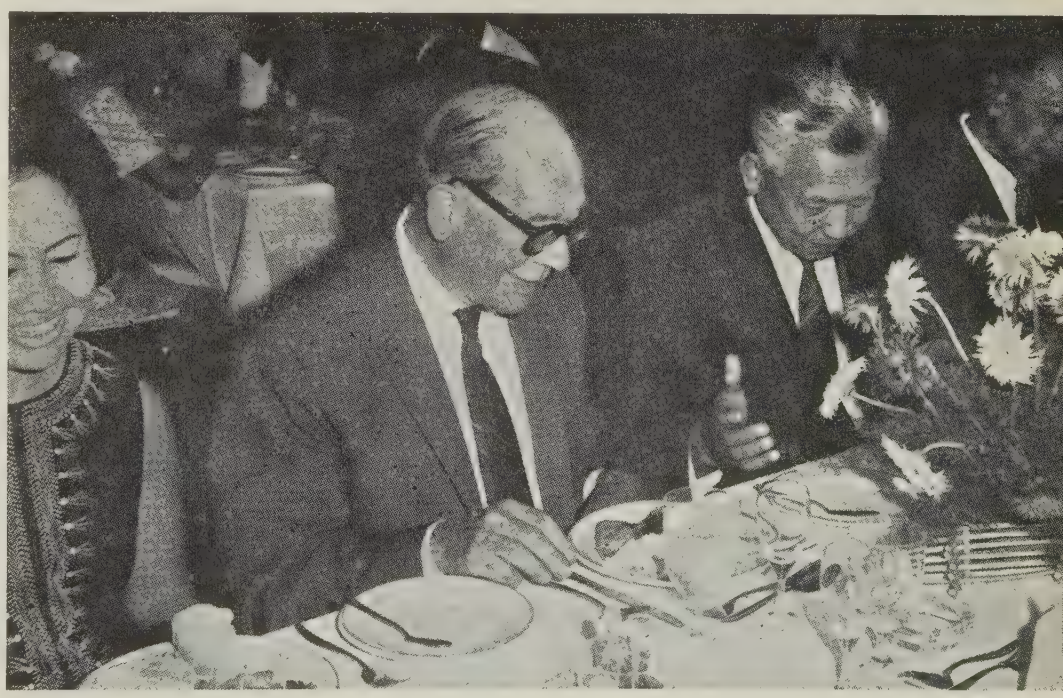
- *Support should be given to the Royal Forestry Department and to the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, for extending research on catchment area management and run-off.*

- *A biological control centre should be set up at Chieng Mai.*

- *The US AID Regional Pulse Improvement Project to Thailand should be extended as a means to improve research on pulses for the north-east area.*

- *More research on oil-seed crops, particularly groundnuts, is recommended for the north-east area of Thailand.*

- *Development of improved vegetable varieties and vegetable seed production is recommended for the Universities of Kasetsart and Chieng Mai.*



Mr. Rhind (wearing spectacles) is pictured here at a luncheon given in his honour by SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club. Among the scientists and agriculturists present were Phya Salya Vidhan Nidhes (right), Chairman of Thailand's National Research Council and of the National Committee collaborating with the SEATO Project, and Mrs. Boonthom Dhammachariya, (left) secretary to the Committee.

Project paves way for more mechanics

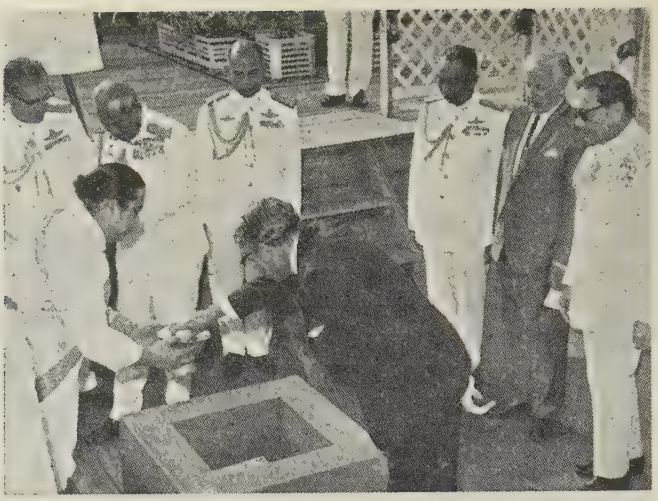
PRIME Minister of Thailand Thanom Kittikachorn, in his capacity as Minister of Defence, presided at a recent foundation-stone-laying ceremony for the Motor Mechanics Training Centre at Soi Aladdin, another Thai-Australian joint project under the auspices of SEATO.

"I have always been deeply interested in Australia's assistance programme for the Armed Forces of our country," the Thai Prime Minister said in a speech at the ceremony.

The Centre is the latest project to be established with Australian co-operation under SEATO. Its two predecessors were the Military Technical Training School, set up in 1960 and of which the new Centre will become an integral part, and the Armed Forces Vehicle Rebuild Workshop, established in 1964.

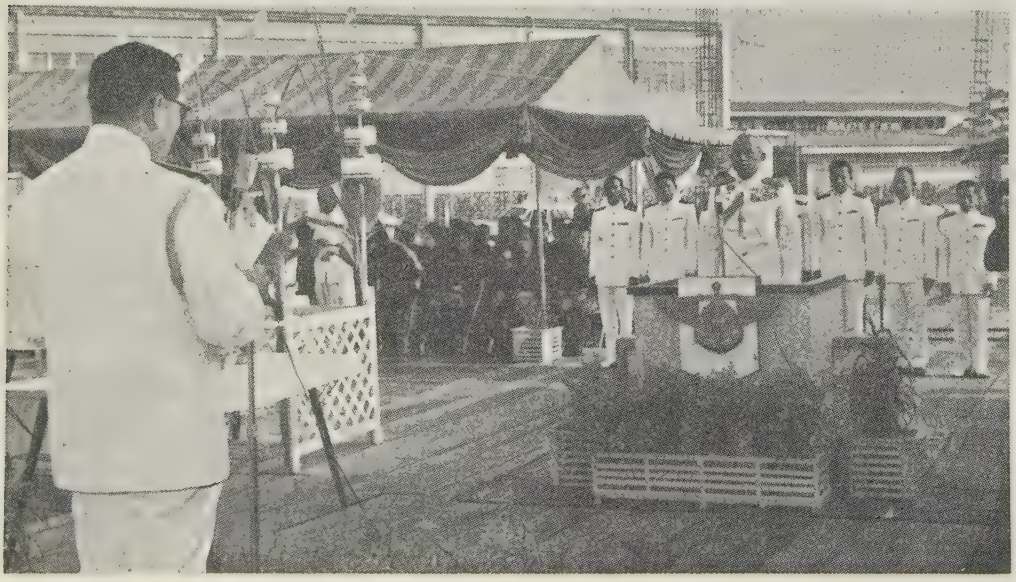
"All three Australian-assisted projects," the Prime Minister said, "not only benefit the Armed Forces but indirectly contribute to the economic development of the whole nation."

In his report to the Prime Minister, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, Chief of Staff, Supreme Command, said the Centre is scheduled to accept its first intake of trainees in September this year. Plans are to enroll students gradually until a total of 120 a year, is reached.



The Australian Ambassador to Thailand, Mr. D.W. McNicol, is pictured participating in the traditional ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the Motor Mechanics Training Centre in Bangkok. Watching at left are: Air Vice-Marshal Chamrat Veenagupta, Commandant of the School (wearing glasses), and Prime Minister Kittikachorn. At right: Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, Chief of Staff, Supreme Command and Thailand's Military Adviser to SEATO. Next to him is Mr. D.A. Wraight, SEATO Deputy Secretary-General.

For this project, the Chief of Staff reported, the Thai Government allocated a budget of 10,842,120 baht for the purchase of land, construction of workshops and residential quarters, and for transport and other facilities. A further 711,000 baht budget has been set aside for this year, and the same sum for the year 1970, Australian assistances valued at A$ 600,000 or 13,830,000 baht, is in the form of machine tools and other equipment, and in the services of experts and instructors.



Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya is pictured left reporting to Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn at the opening ceremony of the Motor Mechanics Training Centre.

Mr. Chaiwat

TWO CD EXPERTS CONCLUDE SEATO -SPONSORED TOUR

Mr. Burce

TWO experts on community and rural development recently concluded observation tours of the Philippines and Thailand under the SEATO exchange programme for Community Development experts.

They are Mr. Pedro Burce, Chief of the Information Service of the Philippine Community Development Centre at the Agricultural College, Los Banos; and Mr. Chaiwat Hutacharoen, Chief of the Training Division, Community Development Department of Thailand.

Mr. Burce, accompanied by Mr. Chaiwat, spent two weeks collecting first-hand information in various parts of Thailand, including the SEATO-assisted Regional Community Development Centre at Ubon in the north-east. Earlier, under the same scheme, the two experts toured centres in the Philippines, particularly the provinces of Rizal and Batangas.

In an interview at the conclusion of their tours, the two experts outlined some of the problems facing Community Development schemes in their respective countries.

Mr. Burce was impressed with much of the Community Development work being done in Thailand but felt there were a number of liaison problems still to be overcome between CD workers and the various technical agencies of government departments.

●

The two Community Development experts are pictured above with SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas. From the left are: General Vargas; Mr. Chaiwat; Mr. S. Chaudhury, SEATO Community Development Officer; Mr. Burce; and SEATO Director of Community Development Mr. A.B. Castro.

Pictured here informally discussing Community Development problems in their respective countries while visiting SEATO Headquarters are Mr. Pedro Burce (left) of the Philippines and Mr. Chaiwat of Thailand.

"It seems to me that a closer dialogue should exist between CD personnel and other technical agencies or offices which are responsible for the technical side of implementing various projects," said Mr. Burce. "We must always bear in mind that rural community improvements are not, and can never be, the province of one agency alone. Health, education, public works, social welfare are all part and parcel of rural development programmes and as such, there should be close liaison with Community Development officials who are the best people to know about the needs of the rural population at grass-roots level."

Mr. Chaiwat agreed with these observations, but felt in addition that a shortage of CD workers was also a problem inhibiting the expansion of the programme in Thailand.

This however, was being largely overcome by the Rural Volunteer Leader's Programme which was helping to raise the number of CD officials. So far under this scheme more than 400 volunteers had been trained, he said.

Turning to Community Development in the Philippines, Mr. Chaiwat said he found liaison problems there too, but of a somewhat different nature. Co-operatives were coming very much into their own in the countryside and the Philippines Agricultural Productivity Commission is in the process of overhauling and revitalising the whole farming cooperative system.

Closer co-operation

"It is important," he said, "for Community Development agencies to co-operate more closely with the PAPC as the two are obviously closely linked in any rural development schemes. There is a need for CD officials to learn more about the methods of implementing co-operatives so that they can engage more effectively in organizing them, thereby complementing the work of the co-operative agencies rather than duplicating it."

The fact that the CD worker is so closely identified with the rural people and their needs could be a great asset in smoothing the way for the setting up of rural co-operatives and in explaining the way they operate and the benefits to be derived from them, Mr. Chaiwat said.

Both Mr. Burce and Mr. Chaiwat called on the Secretary-General of SEATO, Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas at the conclusion of their tours to give him a brief preview of their forthcoming reports which will be submitted, both to SEATO and their respective Governments.

Improvements recommended

Each will contain, among other things, recommendations for further improving the various programmes observed in the visited countries. Ways and means of combining national action with regional co-operation will also be discussed in the reports.

The SEATO exchange programme for Community Development experts has been planned to continue for three years. Its ultimate goal is to help ensure that community and rural development programmes in Asian member nations stand the best chances of bringing maximum benefit to their peoples.

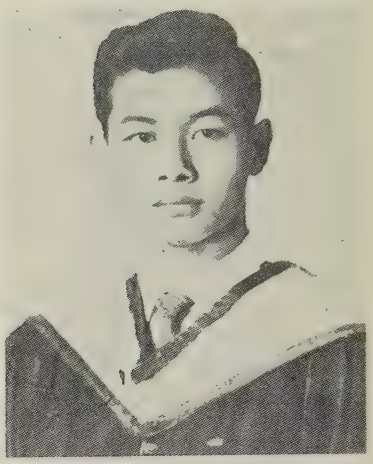
AWARDS FOR SEATO STUDENTS

TWO Thais studying at the University of the Philippines under the SEATO Post-Graduate Scholarship Programme have won new scholarships from the university for their high scholastic achievements during the first semester of the school year.

They are Mr. Natthapong Charoenpit, an instructor at Chandrakasem Teachers' College in Bangkok when granted the SEATO Scholarship; and Miss Wilai Punpanich, who had been teaching English at a secondary school in the province of Prachuab.

Both received their certificates along with other winners at a special ceremony held at the University of the Philippines earlier this year.

Natthapong, who arrived in the Philippines last June, is working for his master's degree in the teaching of chemistry. Miss Wilai has been with U.P. since June 1967 and expects to complete the requirements for a master's degree on teaching English as a second language next June. This is her second time to receive this academic honour from the University of the Philippines. The first time was in 1968.



Natthapong Charoenpit

Wilai Punpanich

At present, eight Thai students are now studying for higher degrees at universities in the Philippines and Pakistan under the SEATO Post-Graduate Scholarship programme.

Other SEATO grants, this time under the SEATO Under graduate Scholarship Programme, were awarded to 39 Filipino students from as many schools in the Philippines.

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Philippines Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo is pictured here (right) handing over cheques to three of the 39 students who were awarded grants under the SEATO Undergraduate Scholarship Programme this year. From left are: Ambassador Tomas Benitez, Chairman of the committee that selected the awardees, and the three students — Concepcion Claravall of the Philippine Women's University; Trinidad Avelino of the Centro Escolar University; and Roela Victoria of the University of the East.

MADAME SORIANO — AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL

YOU would never guess that so much energy and determination lies concealed behind the friendly smile of the woman seated at her desk, upon which invariably rests a vase of freshly cut orchids—a splash of vivid colour that is in pleasing contrast to piles of thick official-looking files waiting to be "processed" with her customary brisk efficiency.

Rafaelita Hilaro Soriano is known as a human dynamo among her friends and colleagues at the Philippines Foreign Office where, as Assistant Secretary for United Nations Affairs and Internatial Conferences, SEATO comes closely within her jurisdiction.

In addition to her official position, Ambassador Soriano is the wife of a prominent Manila physician, Dr. Jesus Soriano, the devoted mother of a daughter and the grandmother of two small grandsons.

Ambassador Soriano was born in Pampanga, a rugged province in Central Luzon where her ancestors fought against the Spanish. In a recent interview in Manila, Ambassador Soriano told of her family background and how they encouraged her to enter public service:

"There is a tradition of public service in my family" she declared. "My great grandfather was the first lawyer in Pampanga province and my grandfather organized a revolutionary force to fight for the freedom of the Philippines. My father was a Judge and an author and poet of some note. So I did have the proper environment. In addition, I made up my mind to go to university in the Philippines and then later I did post-graduate work at the University of Michigan where I obtained my Doctor's degree."

Dr. Soriano pointed out however that she was not the only woman in the Philippines to attain a high position in public service; "There is another woman ambassador in our Foreign Office who is in charge of cultural affairs. We have four women in our Senate and two, I believe, in our House of Representatives.

Women held in esteem

"Women", she added with a knowing smile, "have always been held in high esteem in the Philippines—even before the arrival of the Spaniards. Today for example there are more women than men in Filipino colleges and universities."

Ambassador Soriano is a staunch friend and supporter of SEATO. She officiated at SEATO's birth with the signing of the Manila Pact in 1954 and has carefully watched its growth and development since that time. She has also been a delegate to every Council of Ministers' meeting. When asked by our reporter whether she felt SEATO had justified the hopes held for it when it was founded, she replied:

"SEATO was organised in 1954 at a time when communism in Asia was at its peak. Since that time not one inch of territory of Asian SEATO countries has been seized by Communist forces. In addition, SEATO has done much to improve living conditions and to provide more understanding among the member nations."

THE DILEMMA OF SHIFTING CULTIVATION

One of the problems preoccupying agriculturists and research workers in Northern Thailand is that of "shifting cultivation" as practiced by the Hill Tribes and an increasing number of Thai farmers. Although not necessarily a damaging practice in itself, it can become so if the population is allowed to rise above a certain critical level that is inconsistent with the arable land available.

In this, the first of two articles, Mr. G.A. Oughton, an Australian agricultural Research Officer working under SEATO at the Hill Tribes Research Centre in Chiang Mai, discusses shifting cultivation and some of the problems it can give rise to.

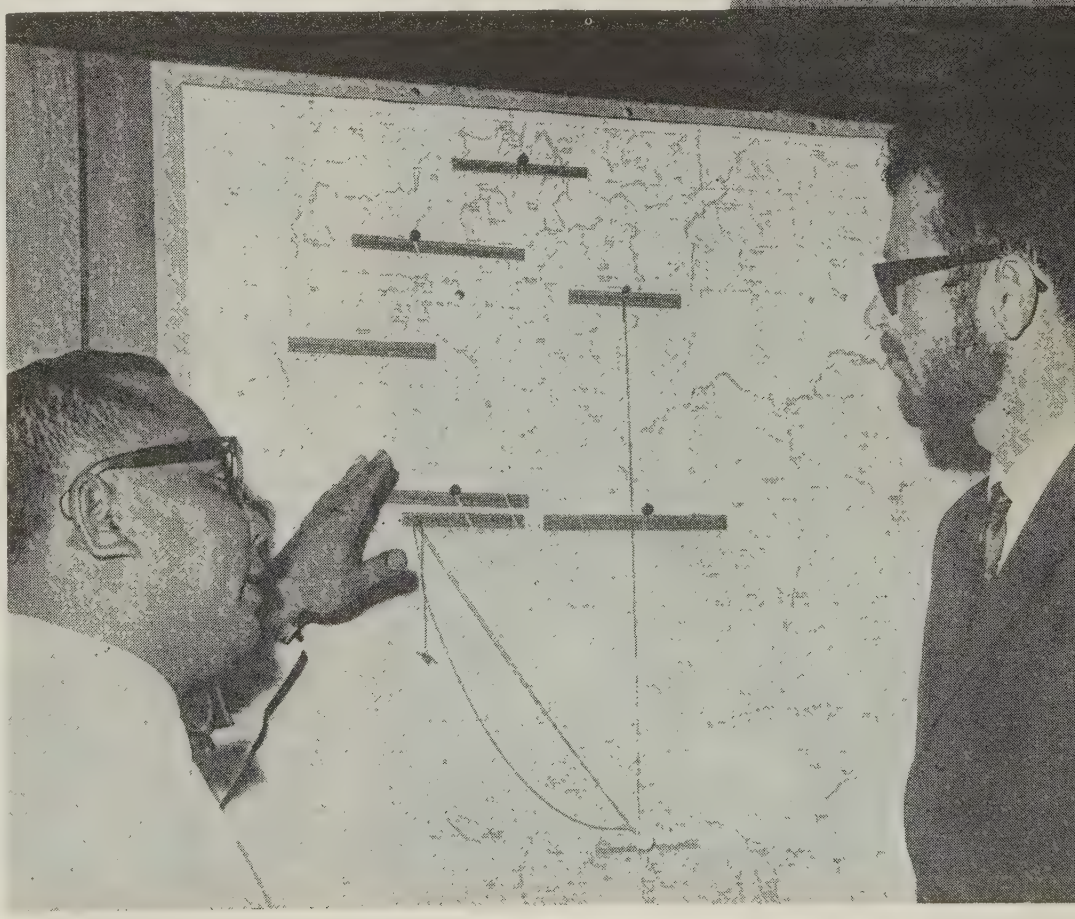
UNDER natural forest conditions, the concentrations and yields of plants edible by foraging animals and humans are so low that only very small populations of non-cultivators (e.g. the Sakai of Peninsular Thailand and Malaysia) can subsist in certain areas.

To support higher populations men must become "farmers", and plant food crops capable of high yields, in fields where they can be protected from wild animals, and have weed growth eliminated. Such higher yielding crops, usually however, require more chemical nutrients from the topsoil in any one growing season than can be automatically replaced from the subsoil by natural means.

Thus farmers adapt agricultural methods to suit the environment in three main ways.

1. Growing crops in areas where water-borne silts act as a fertiliser, such as in the traditional rice-growing practices of Thailand's central plain;

2. Allowing sufficient time between crops for the regrowth vegetation to accumulate a supply of crop-nutrients, which can subsequently be released to the topsoil by slashing and burning the vegetation.



Mr. Oughton is pictured here, right, discussing his agricultural survey with Mr. Prasit Disawat, Chief of the Hill Tribes division, Department of Public Welfare in Bangkok, before returning to the North to continue his work there.

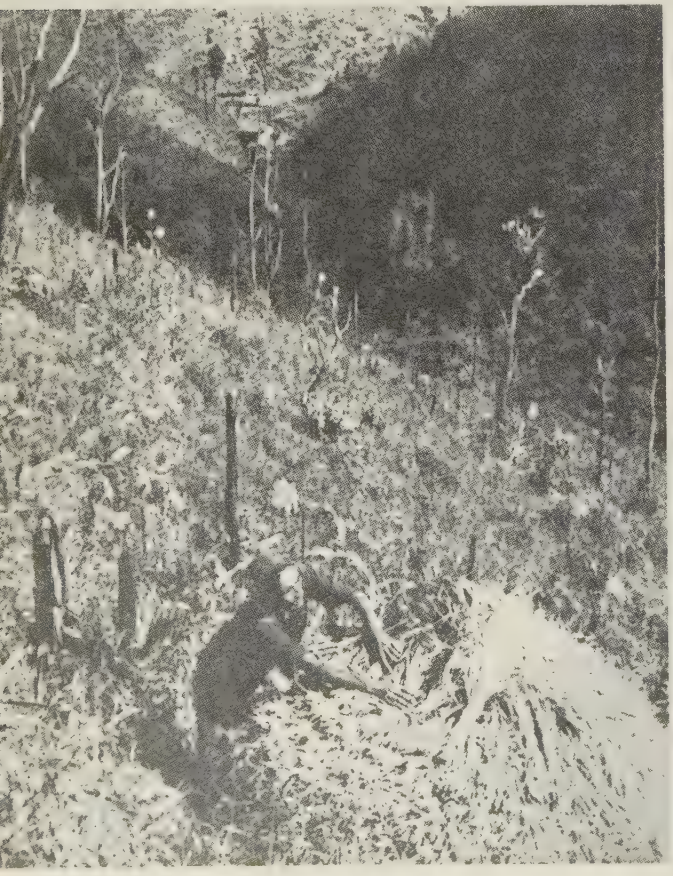
This means that the sites of cropping must be shifted frequently, thus the term "shifting cultivation" (also know as "slash and burn" agriculture, and "swiddening") is used. This is widely practised in Northern Thailand, both by Thai nationals on the dry terraces next to the irrigated valley land, and in the foothills, and by the hill tribes in the mountains;

3. Supplementing soil nutrients by addition of fertilisers or manures from elsewhere; such as in vegetable gardens near the towns; or in "Western style" agriculture, particularly that involving mechanisation.

Traditional agricultural systems have evolved in response to the densities of the producing and consuming populations, the positions of these populations in relation to each other, and the ease of movement of commodities between them. Because the isolation and ruggedness of Thailand's mountain regions makes transport difficult, and population pressures have been low in the past, "self-contained" economies have developed in which most of the products are consumed by the producers.

There is little external trade, and consequently little finance, facility, or opportunity to purchase and use fertilisers, draught animals (for cultivation), or plantation techniques. Thus, in these regions, "shifting cultivation" has been the answer to the problem of earning a living from the soil.

I emphasise that shifting cultivation agriculture, or "swiddening", is a pattern adapted to *low* population density. *Provided* that the density remains below a critical level, and the area is not required for immediate development of forest resources, swiddening is a very *sound* method of land use in areas too isolated or too steep for other forms of agricultural production, and no damage to soil or water resources results from the practice.



A Karen farmer is seen here harvesting his crop from a plot of land that is beginning to show signs of re-growth with small trees sprouting foliage, after undergoing the burning process.

Forest species are much more effective than grasses at accumulating nutrients for release to crops when slashed and burnt, due to their large numbers of deep roots collecting nutrients, and the continuous supply of leaves and small branches falling, rotting, and releasing nutrients to be stored in the topsoil.

Patterns of swidden cultivation which allow the forest trees to regenerate swiftly after cropping is finished, and allow the forest to grow for sufficient time to accumulate nutrients adequate to ensure high yields when next cropped, may be called "*sedentary*", ie: the cultivating population can rotate its cropping within a given area indefinitely, and does not have to move its abode for agricultural reasons.

Patterns of cultivation which result in the killing

Pictured left is a typical forest area in the hills of Northern Thailand under controlled burning. Later the cleared area will be planted with crops.

of the natural forest regrowth (usually by continuous cultivation and burning), and the encouragement of Cogon Grass and related species, may be called "*migratory*". The available soil nutrients are exhausted and soil structure destroyed to a greater extent during the cropping years, and the resultant grasses are not nearly as effective as trees in the accumulation of nutrients, so that the cultivating population eventually runs out of productive land in the vicinity of its dwelling area, and has to move its abode elsewhere for a long period until the area is once more suitable for agriculture. Provided fire and livestock are kept away from the area, the forest will slowly regenerate and replenish the topsoil nutrients.

Both patterns can be "stable" (ie. capable of being followed indefinitely, with sustained crop-yield levels), provided that the population's cropping demand is low enough to allow a sufficient period in every cycle for the re-establishment of forest and the replenishment of nutrients.

Population density throughout the hills is increasing in the following ways:—

1. Natural growth: Suppression of major epidemic diseases and the gradual extension of medical facilities to hill communities.

The provision of medical and veterinary services is an excellent way of initially contacting the people and maintaining their friendship and co-operation. However, the provision of birth control measures will be desirable, so that such increased medical services will not aggravate the long-term population problem.

2. Migration from Neighbouring Countries: In both Burma and Laos, conscription into military service, taxation, and increasing Cogon Grass infestation are causes of migration of upland people into Thailand's mountains, where restrictions are few, contacts with officialdom rare, and the soil resources not yet fully exploited.

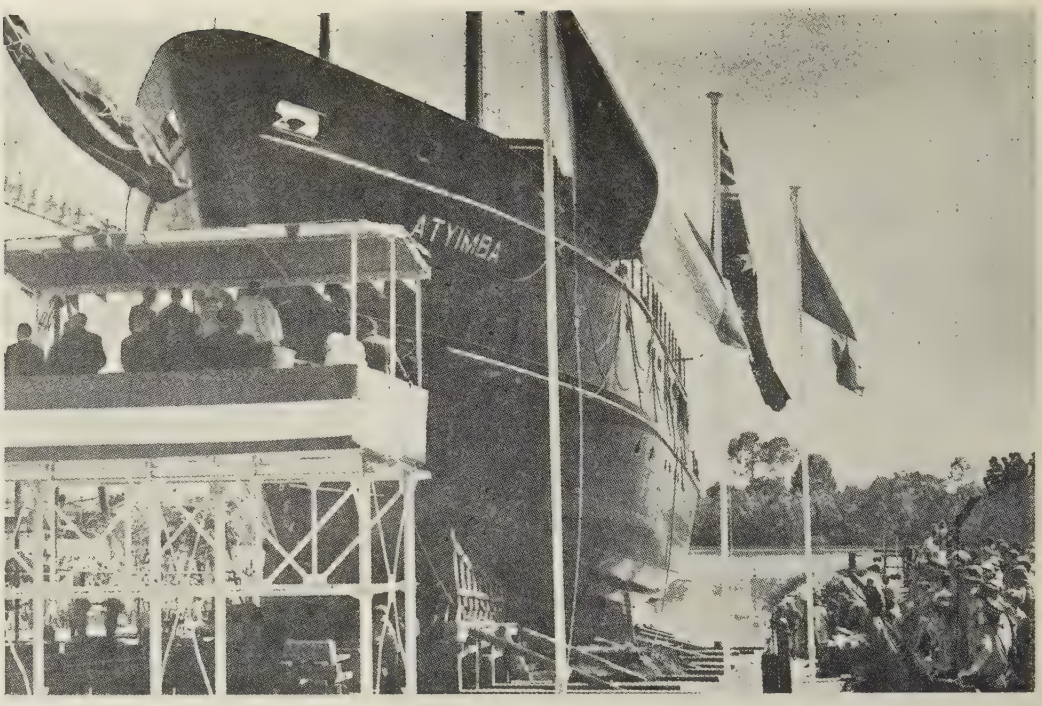
3. Extension of Valley Landholdings into the Hills: Due to increasing family size, and the excessive subdivision of individual irrigated rice farms, there is increasing pressure on the lower slopes of the hills. There is in fact a larger area of Thailand being swiddened for upland rice production by Thai nationals than by hill-tribes.

The Division of Land Policy, Department of Land Development, is at present engaged on a project at Sa District in Nan Province, aimed at re-allocating land and increasing the productivity of the non-irrigable river-terrace soils adjacent to the foothills. Success there should help to reduce the pressure "from below" on the hill regions of that Province.

But If the population density continues to follow present trends unchecked, local disturbances are bound to become an increasing threat to national security.

Whereas in the past the more migratory hill people would move away from more sedentary groups with whom they came into conflict, this is becoming increasingly difficult due to land shortage and embargoes on felling trees in Thailand's diminishing areas of natural forest. As well as causing security problems it could be expected that the unstable cultivation pattern already described would increase, and the irreversible destruction of natural resources commence.

Third survey ship for Philippines launched



The 686-ton coastal survey vessel "Atyimba" is pictured here just before sliding down the slipway at her launching ceremony.

THE third coastal survey vessel donated to the Philippines under Australia's SEATO Aid Programme was launched recently at Walkers Shipyards, Maryborough.

Mrs. Gordon Freeth, wife of Australia's Minister for External Affairs, named the vessel ATYIMBA, an Australian Aboriginal word meaning Emu.

Representatives of the Australian and Philippines Governments and other SEATO countries attended the launching.

ATYIMBA was designed by the Australian Shipbuilding Board to carry out modern and scientific in-shore and off-shore hydrographic survey work in the Philippines.

Her overall length is 161 ft. with a displacement of 686 tons, range is 4,000 miles; cruising speed 9.5 knots; and ship's complement is 54. Cost of the vessel is $1,500,000.

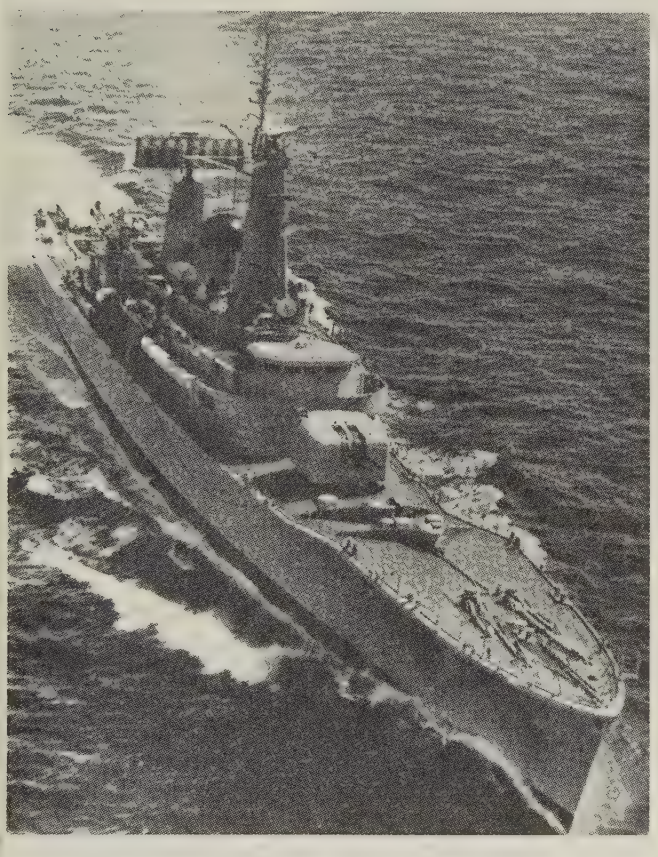
ATYIMBA is the largest of the three vessels built at Walkers Shipyards for the Philippines Bureau of Coastal and Geodetic Survey. The others, ARINYA (Kangaroo) and ARLUNYA (Sun) were launched in October 1962 and December 1963 respectively.

As a corollary to the provision of this vessel to the Philippines, members of the Philippines Bureau of Coastal and Geodetic Survey will undergo training with the Royal Australian Navy.

TWO NAVY SHIPS SAIL IN ON GOODWILL VISIT

Capt. Hepworth

HMS AJAX



TWO naval vesssel, H.M.S. AJAX, a British Leander Class frigate and H.M.N.Z.S. BLACKPOOL, a Whitby Class anti-submarine frigate of the Royal New Zealand Navy, paid a 5-day visit to Bangkok earlier this month.

H.M.S. Ajax was commissioned in December 1963, since when she has spent most of her time in Far Eastern waters. The ship is the 8th British naval ship to bear the name, Ajax, and is currently under the command of Captain David Hepworth, who is also in command of the 2nd Destroyer Squadron of the British Far East Fleet.

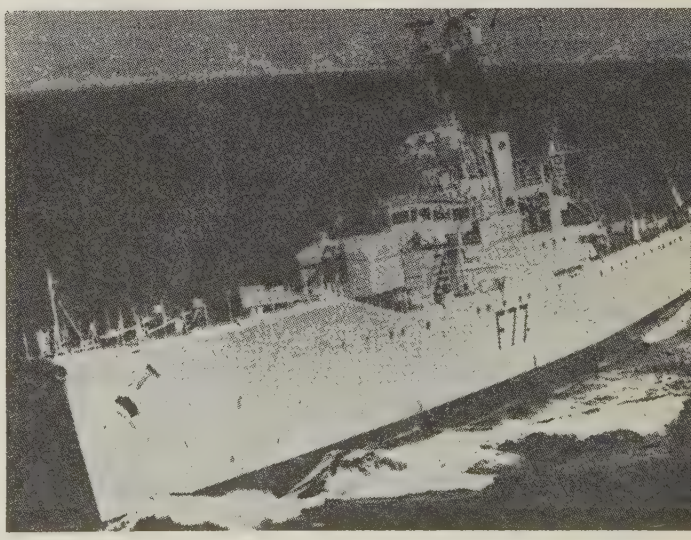
Since she was commissioned in 1958 H.M.N.Z.S. BLACKPOOL has seen service in most parts of the world: the Mediterranean Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean, and in Japanese, British and South-East Asian waters. The BLACKPOOL has been under the command of Commander Derek Chency since March 1968.

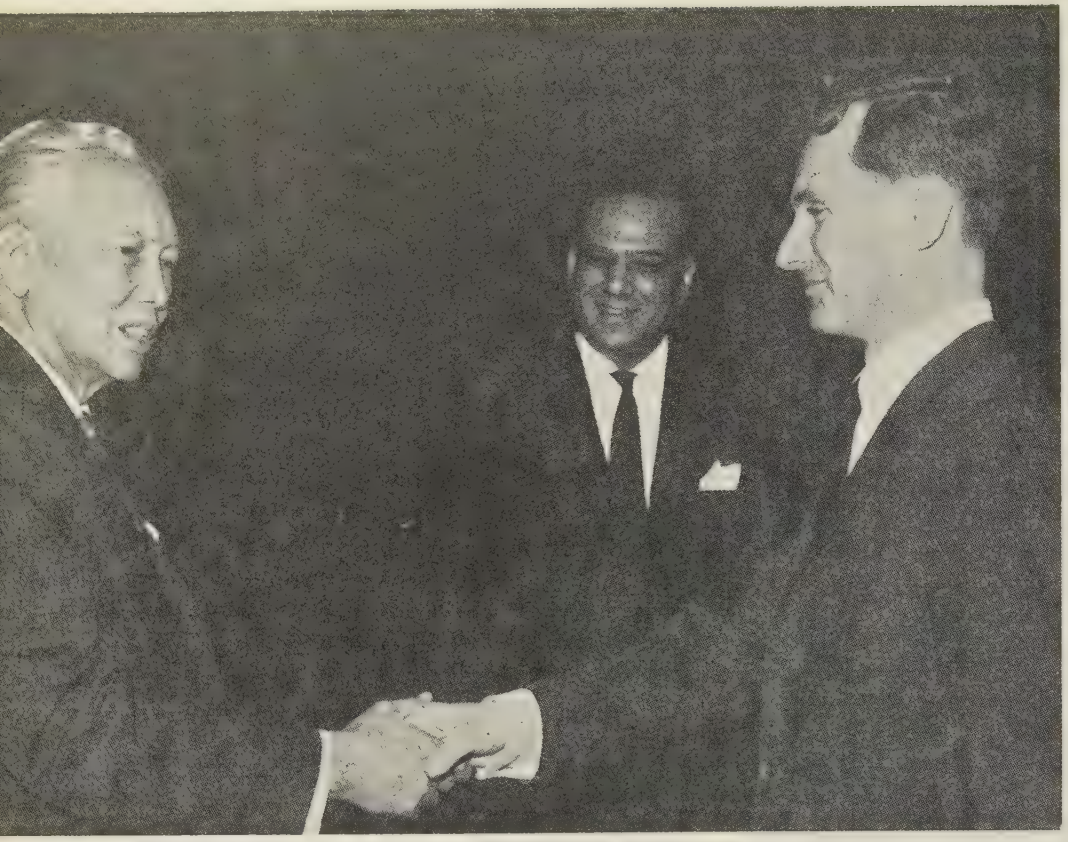
Personnel from both ships carried out a busy protocol, social, sporting and sightseeing programme. Calls were made on the British and New Zealand Ambassadors and on the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Navy.

The officers and men of the ships also held a party on board for crippled children. The ships were also open for inspection by the public on one day during the visit.

Cdr. Chency

HMNZS BLACKPOOL





Frenchman joins SEATO as Cultural Officer

Mr. Jean-Marc Montguerre, newly appointed Cultural Affairs Officer to SEATO, is shown exchanging greetings with SEATO Secretary-General Jesus M. Vargas and, in centre, Mr. S.M.H. Rizvi, SEATO Director of Cultural and Economic Affairs.

Mr. Montguerre has served in various capacities with the Alliance Francaise and other French cultural and scientific institutes. Trained in physics, biology and medicine, he has also won literary awards including three prizes from the Academie Francaise.

●

Mr. Jean-Marc Montguerre of France has joined the SEATO Office of Cultural and Economic Affairs as Cultural Affairs Officer, succeeding his fellow citizen Mr. Alain Crozet, now serving with the French Embassy in Djakarta.

A scientist and author, Mr. Montguerre, 40, was a graduate of the University of Paris and received further training in physics, biology and medicine at the University of London. He has been Director of a cultural centre in the South of France, a project sponsored by a group headed by the world-famous French author Mr. Andre Maurois.

Mr. Montguerre held a number of research and lecture assignments in Europe, Africa and Asia, on behalf of the Alliance Francaise and other French Institutes. He has been to Pakistan and Thailand twice, in 1958 and 1961.

As a scientist who has been helping to bridge the gap between the world of science and the world of culture Mr. Montguerre has been a regular contributor to several well-known French journals ranging from the Nouvelles Litteraires to Annales de la Societe de Medicine. He was also for three years editor of the Revue Mensuelle Internationale Pour le Medicine Praticien.

Mr. Montguerre was awarded the Readers' Society Prize (1956) and three Prizes from the Academie Francaise including the Montyon Prize in 1961.

The SEATO Cultural Programme aims to foster mutual understanding between member nations by giving opportunities to nationals to study under scholarships and exchange programmes at various levels at universities and institutions aboard.

Other ways in which mutual understanding is perpetuated include the sponsoring of travelling lectureships by eminent experts and special grants for certain projects such as publishing books on art and culture, and provision of audio-visual equipment for education purposes.

Count your chickens before they are hatched— and have a thriving farm

That is what Mr. Sorn Chaporn did and you can see the successful results in this picture of a farm typical of the kind he has developed.

To link the activities of SEATO with poultry breeding and egg laying may at first sight seem somewhat far-fetched. Yet there is a link, and a very significant one, too. SEATO for many years has taken a lively interest in Community Development, first by subscribing to the establishment of the Regional Community Development Technical Assistance Centre at Ubon, and currently by operating a Community Development Office at Headquarters in Bangkok.

To show just what can be done by an individual who closely follows the "self-help" concept of Community Development work Prachuab Supamaly an offical of the Livestock Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture, who is a adviser at the Ubon Centre, here describes Mr. Sorn's success story.

YOUNG people in Bangkok and other big cities often waste valuable time flitting from one pleasure to another, indulging in activities which bring little or no benefit to anyone. The exceptions are those who work hard to secure a happy future for themselves and their families. Sorn Chaiporn is one of them.

Sorn Chaiporn lives at 8/24, Ban Tat Noi, Amphur Tat Panom, about 40 kilometres from the provincial seat of Nakorn Panom. Sorn is in his middle twenties and a graduate (in carpentry) of the Nakorn Panom Vocational School. After graduation he got a job at the tobacco station in Ban Pang, also in Nakorn Panom. There was some chicken-raising in these parts and the work attracted Sorn's attention. He became very interested and started acquiring knowledge as to how a chicken farm could be run. He learned through his own observations and by writing for further information to various authorities including Kasetsart University. Meanwhile, he was putting some money by out of his earnings at the tobacco station. After three years he felt he knew enough about poultry raising, and having saved enough money, he resigned from his job and started a chicken farm of his own.

He returned to his home village of Ban Tat Noi to do it, starting with 20 Rhode Island Red and White Leghorn chicks.

He said that they weren't of the very best breed and that it was't much of a beginning, but he did not worry. He was interested in getting started

profiting from his mistakes and translating what he had learned into practice.

When he had some spare time he used to go into town to do a little market survey of his own. These trips convinced him that Nakorn Panom could do with a few more chicken farms since it still had to buy eggs and chickens from other provinces. The opportunity was there and he took it. This is where his skill in carpentry came in handy for he was able to build his own chicken houses and 'hotels'. He then proceeded to order, by air, 100 high quality chicks, both pure and mixed breeds, from a well-known farm in Bangkok.

His first real problem was chicken meal. Since there weren't very many chicken farms in Nakorn Panom, no one had thought of opening a shop to sell chicken meal. Sorn needed to go all the way to Sakol Nakorn, 90 miles from his home, to buy it. It was inconvenient and time-consuming but he did it patiently and without complaint. He had made up his mind to run a chicken farm and long trips to get food for his chickens were part of the business. Later on chicken farming became more popular in the region and chicken meal became available in the market.

Disease strikes

Sorn made a good start. He lost only 10 per cent of his original stock and was soon able to make a profit from selling eggs to the local market. The profit was not big but with his industry he found time to take on other jobs, using the combined income to buy more chicks, thereby continuously enlarging his stock. Then inevitably the problem of disease began to plague his chicks and several times he came near to abandoning the whole thing in despair. But his patience, skill and determination won out in the end and he struggled on.

At this point I happened to be in Nakorn Panom on official business and, impressed with Sorn's work, did what I could to help him deal with the situation. Since then I have never failed to visit Sorn when in Nakorn Panom, and Sorn himself has been writing to me for more advice at the Community Development Technical Assistant Centre in Ubon. Another three years passed, during which Sorn's business continued to expand rapidly.

By 1968 the increasing demand for chicken meat in Nakorn Panom had encouraged many more people to take up poultry farming. Most of these people had to order their chicks from farms in Bangkok. This was not always feasible. Some had to wait months before their orders could be met. Some were pursuaded to give up the idea altogether. This prompted Sorn to branch out into raising chicks for sale. Using his own funds and borrowing from friends, he obtained meat-cocks to breed with the Rhodes and others already in his possession. He bought incubators, and set to work.

The results were not encouraging at first. The eggs obtained were few and far between, and among them very few were fertile. After consulting with the experts Sorn resorted to artificial insemination. After a period of trial and error, and learning fast from it, he pulled through to become the successful breeder he is today.

The modern approach

But he has never stopped acquiring more knowledge, and keeping up with the latest advances in methods of poultry breeding. He asks questions and reads text-books. He realizes that in order keep his business on a firm basis he must be able to supply his customers with high quality chicks, easy to raise and not disease-prone.

Chicks from Sorn's farm have such a high reputation now that his customers have to queue up for them just as they did for their orders from Bangkok. Sorn has now produced about 40 batches of the chicks. Every five days he can sell about 200 chicks at 4 baht each, which means his earnings from this part of his business come to about 4,800 baht a month. Not at all a modest income and one which compares well with that of a special-grade government official.

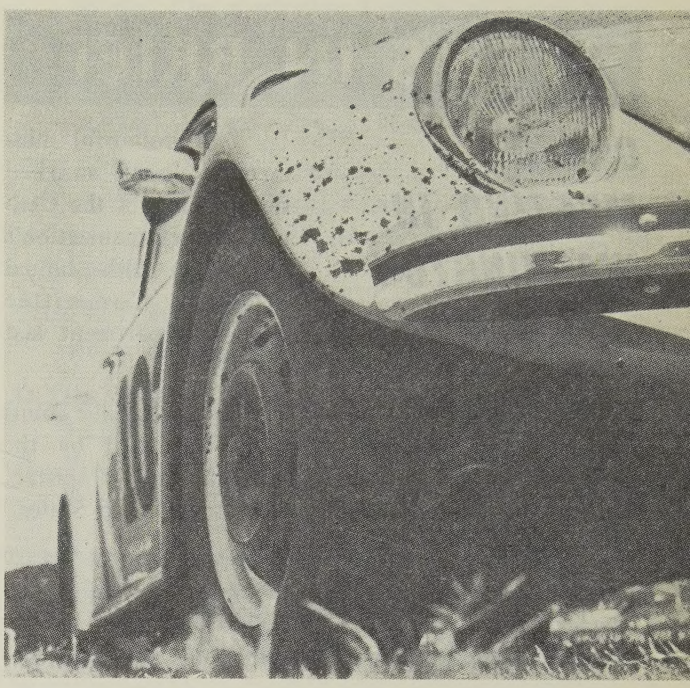
There is also the daily sale of several hundred eggs from his farm. He now has about 1000 chickens and his prospects for expansion continue to be good.

Last August Sorn told me that he would have to acquire more land if he were to expand, since there was no space left on the present site. He would like to move nearer to Nakorn Panom. If business progressed as smoothly as it had done in the past he was sure he could do it some day.

I have no doubt that he will.

(This article is reproduced with kind permission from Kasikorn, a journal published by the Department of Agriculture—Volume 41, No. 5, September 1968, Pages 3,4 and 5).

ASIAN HIGHWAY RALLY...



Mud spattered fender of a Volkswagen saloon, one of the early arrivals at Bangkok on the first leg of the 2,900-kilometre rally course to Singapore.

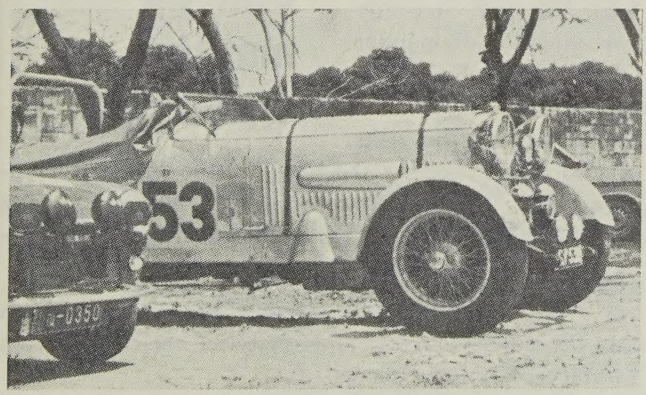
...puts drivers' skills to the test

THIS month's Asian Highway Rally, in which nearly 200 cars competed over the 2,900 kms course from Vientiane to Singapore, was probably more a test of endurance for the drivers than it was for their vehicles.

This is because road conditions for most of distance are good, which is why those who failed to arrive at the checkpoints on schedule were heavily penalised.

The Rally began after Laotian Minister of Public Works and Transportation, Thao Ngon Chananikone declared the rally open.

During his address the Minister congratulated the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), the rally sponsor, for its choice of rally committee members.



President of the Asian Highway Rally committee was Luang Chartrakan Kosol; Jelan bin Kupah of Malaysia was vice president; and Pak Svann of Laos and Lim Yu Hok of Singapore were members.

The oldest car taking part was a 1934 Lagonda driven by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Robinson (pictured left). After a 36-hour layover in Thailand at Nongkhai after crossing the Mekong River by ferry the race started again, passing through Udon, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchsima, Saraburi, and Bangkok.

The average speed fixed for the competing vehicles in the rally was 72 kilometres an hour.

Among the competitors taking part in the rally were several relatives and friends of SEATO staff members, including Miss Piyada Vajarapai (Colt); Mr. Thanavat Lilabhan (B.M.W.); Mr. Katra Sudasana and Peter Bunnag (Porsche); and Mr. Vapee Bhirompakdi (Fiat 124).

ITEMS IN BRIEF

CENTO MEETING IN WASHINGTON

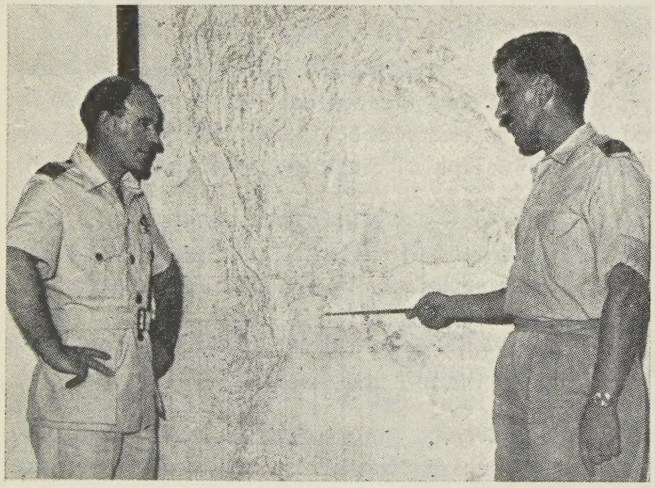
A colourful military ceremony marked the opening of the Central Treaty Organization's (CENTO) 20th annual Military Committee meeting at the United States State Department last month.

A special U.S. Armed Forces full honour guard massed at the opening ceremony attended by the heads of military delegations from Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The five countries comprise the Central Treaty Organization which seeks the economic and social development of the CENTO region and provides for mutual co-operation for defence.

General Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and host for the CENTO meeting, personally greeted the delegations as they arrived at the State Department.

The CENTO delegates later paid a courtesy call on President Nixon at the White House. The opening day schedule also included a luncheon with Defence Secretary Laird and a formal dinner at the State Department with General Wheeler as host.

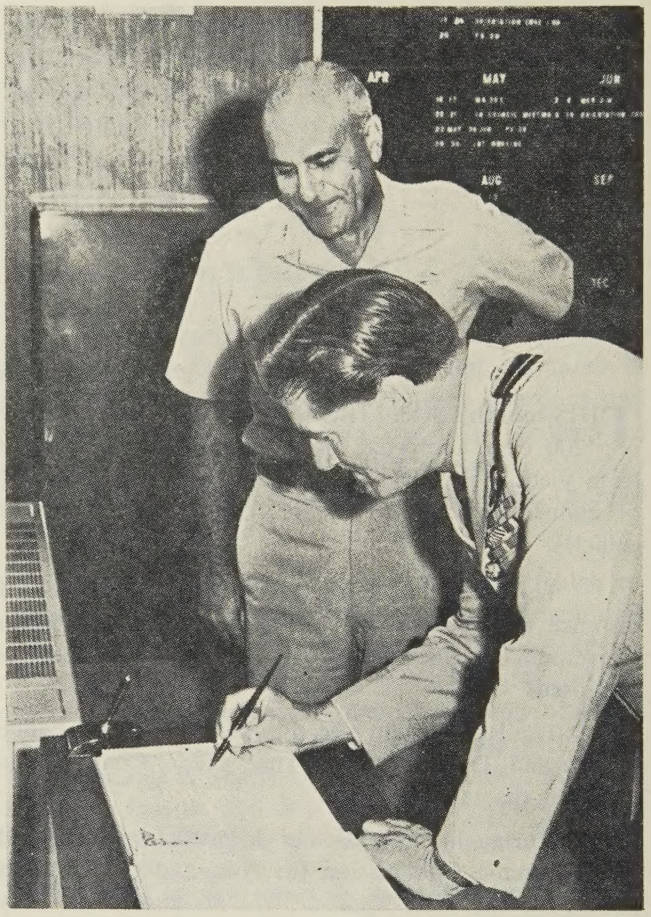


RAF officer joins SEATO Planning Office

The most recent arrival at the Military Planning Office is Wing Commander V. McNabney, RAF, seen above being briefed by his predecessor Wing Commander R.E. Cox (right) RAF.

Wing Commander McNabney had just completed the JSSC course at Latimer before being posted to the SEATO Military Planning Office. Prior to that he commanded No. 44 (Valiant) Squadron, RAF.

Wing Commander McNabney was awarded the George Medal in 1946 for the attempted rescue of a glider pilot who had crashed into some cliffs in Northern Ireland. He joined the RAF in 1949 after serving for four years with the RAF Volunteer Reserve.



U.K. air marshal visits H.Q.

Air Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler, recently appointed Commander of the UK Far East Air Force, is pictured above signing the visitor's book watched by the Chief of the Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun, during a visit to SEATO Headquarters in the course of a one-day tour of Thailand.

While at SEATO the Air Marshal called on the Secretary-General and received briefings from Military Planning Officers.

On your Bookshelf

Books added to the Library during the month of March 1969:

BOYCE, Peter. Malaysia and Singapore in International Diplomacy: documents and commentaries. Sydney Univ. Press, 1968. xii, 268p. 327.5952

ALLEN, Richard. Malaysia: Prospect and Retrospect: The impact and aftermath of colonial rule. London, Oxford Univ., 1968. xiv, 330p., maps. 959.5

HODDER, B.W. Economic Development in the Tropics. London, Methuen, 1968. xiv, 258p. 333.9

BALL, W. Macmahon. Australia's Role in Asia. Melbourne, The Australian Institute of International Affairs, 1967. 17p.

STEWART-SMITH, D.G. The Defeat of Communism. London, Ludgate Press, 1964. 482p., illus.

VILLANUEVA, B.M. The Barrio and Self-government: a critical study of the competence of barrio citizens to conduct self-government. Univ. of the Philippines, 1968. xxx, 262p.

THE ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT. E.I.U. world outlook 1969. London, 1969. 79p.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION. I.L.O. Technical Co-operation Activities in Asia during 1968. Bangkok, I.L.O. Regional Office for Asia, 1969. 69p.

SEATO PUBLICATIONS

(The following publications may be obtained, on request, from the Public Information Office, SEATO Headquarters, P.O. Box 517, Bangkok, Thailand.)

SEATO Annual Report 1967-68 (English, Thai) — by Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas, Secretary-General of SEATO.

SEATO: 1954-1964 (Thai) — A pictorial and written review of 10 years of SEATO progress.

Story of SEATO (English, Thai)
Information pamphlet on SEATO with notes on member countries.

Manila Pact and Pacific Charter (revised 1968)
Texts of the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty and the Pacific Charter, with explanatory notes.

Gandhara Sculpture in Pakistan (English, Thai)
The origin and development of Gandhara art.

Aspects of the History, Culture and Religions of Pakistan
Lectures by Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Karachi, as a travelling lecturer under the SEATO Cultural Programme.

Interpretative Translations of Thai Poets
by M.R. Seni Pramoj.

SEATO Activities Under the Cultural Relations Programme
SEATO activities from 1957-1964 in the field of education.

Post-graduate Studies in Asian SEATO Countries
A guide for applicants for SEATO post-graduate scholarships.

Collective Security: Shield of Freedom (Revised, 1963)
The nature and scope of the various collective security pacts linking 41 nations of the Free World. Foreword by Mr. Pote Sarasin, former Secretary-General of SEATO. 165 pp.

Medical
Research into Disease—I (Revised): Cholera (Pakistan —SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory) in English and Thai.
Research into Disease — II: The Search for Health (SEATO medical projects in Thailand).
Research into Disease—III: Malaria (SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Bangkok) in English and Thai.

Community Development
Report of the SEATO Seminar on Community Development, July 19-23, 1965. In English and Thai.

The Role of Youth in Asia
Report of the SEATO Seminar on 'Youth's Response to Challenges in Asia', Feb. 13-17, 1967.

Skilled Workers for the Armed Forces (English, Thai)
A description of the SEATO Military Technical Training School, Bangkok.

Training Workers for Developing Industries (English, Thai)
An account of the SEATO Skilled Labour Project in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand.

Posters:
Better Communications for Better Living (English, Thai)
Skilled Hands for National Progress (English, Thai)
The Painter's View of his Country — I
Good Health Key to National Prosperity
Highway To Health (SEATO-Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca).
A Helping Hand On The Land (SEATO Agricultural Research Project).

Communist Economic Subversion: A Reappraisal
by Dr. Hans Heymann Jr. A discussion of the growing Communist reliance on economic measures as tools of foreign policy.

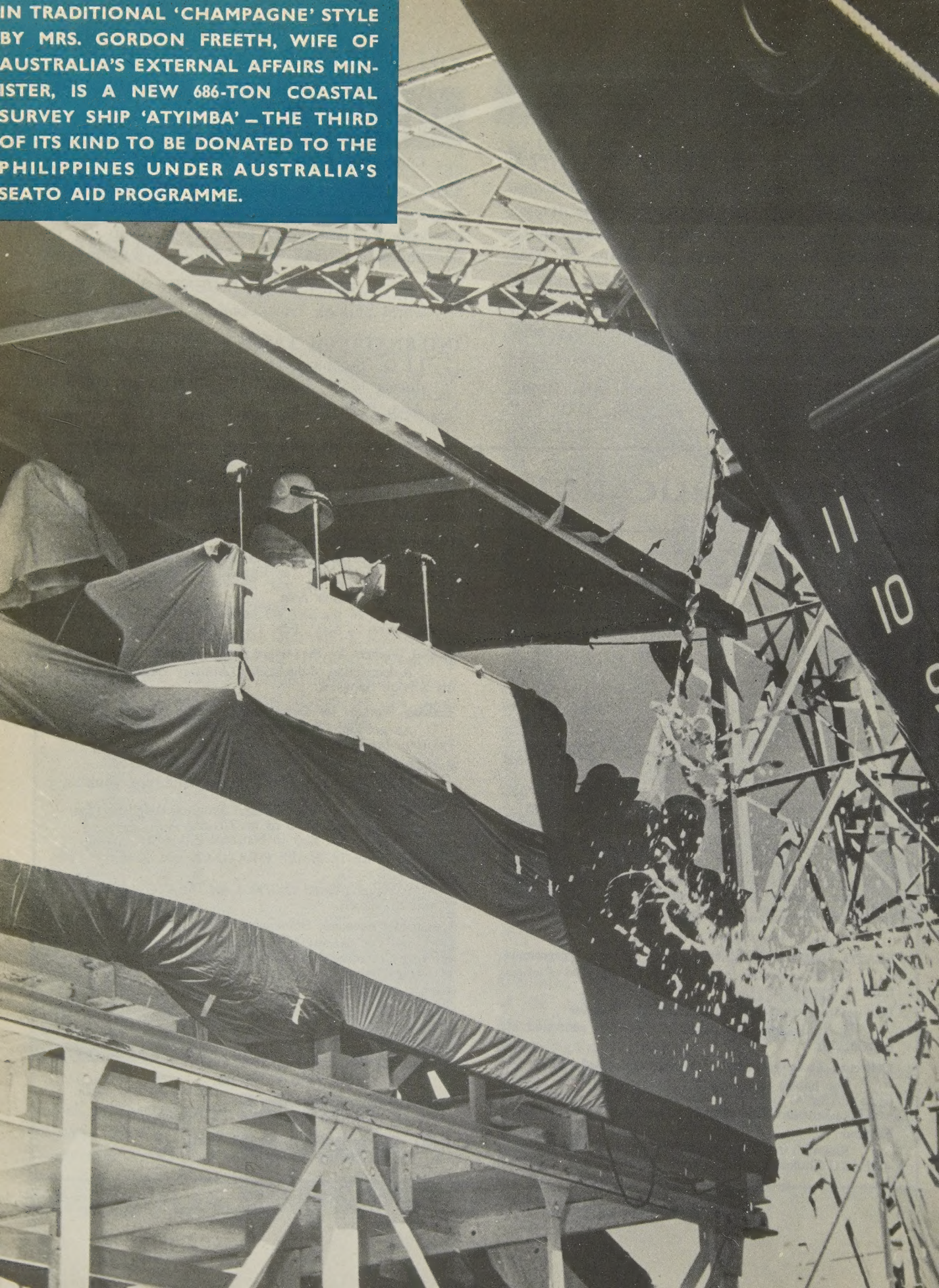
Peking on Revolution
Extracts from speeches and articles on the 90th anniversary of the birth of Lenin indicating the demand for revolutionary uprising.

Communism in Decline: the Huk Campaign
by Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas.

Defeating Communist Insurgency
by Sir Robert Thompson (Thai translation)

Radio Writers Handbook (English, Thai)
by Madeleine C. Meyer.

Printed by Sompong Chaicharoen at the Sompong Press Ltd. Part. 14/8 Pracharasdr Road, Bangkok, April 1969



IN TRADITIONAL 'CHAMPAGNE' STYLE BY MRS. GORDON FREETH, WIFE OF AUSTRALIA'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, IS A NEW 686-TON COASTAL SURVEY SHIP 'ATYIMBA' – THE THIRD OF ITS KIND TO BE DONATED TO THE PHILIPPINES UNDER AUSTRALIA'S SEATO AID PROGRAMME.